

New party on course to be in place by Easter, pledges Rodgers

SDP deals an overwhelming blow to Owen

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The Social Democratic Party conference yesterday turned its back on Dr David Owen, its former leader.

It voted both to enter negotiations to merge with the Liberal Party and to deny to Dr Owen and his supporters who intend to stay out of any merged party the right to go on using the SDP name.

Mrs Shirley Williams, the SDP president, closed the proceedings in Portsmouth last night by telling delegates: "You have marched into history."

The vote in favour of an amendment proposing the incorporation of the Liberals

and the SDP in a new party, moved by Mr Charles Kennedy, MP for Ross and Cromarty, was carried overwhelmingly.

The delegates then voted down by 238 votes to 151 an amendment which would have allowed the Owenite wing of the party to retain the SDP name and which would have divided the assets of the party between the two factions according to how many voted to go into a merged party and how many stayed out when the terms of merger were known.

Subject to endorsement by the Liberal Party assembly in Harrogate the week after next, negotiating teams from both parties are to be set up by the end of this month.

Talks are planned to take two or three months and both SDP and Liberal chiefs last night were predicting that the new merged party would be fully set up, having been endorsed by ballots in both

for Social Democracy, the supreme policy-making body, have now voted by clear majorities to enter merger negotiations.

Yesterday's highly charged and emotional merger debate — a far better-tempered affair than had been predicted — did mark out an SDP hope for the future.

In moving the crucial amendment, Mr Kennedy scored such a personal success that not only senior SDP figures but visiting Liberals too were predicting that he would follow Mr David Steel as the second leader of any merged party.

For Dr Owen and his close followers, Mr John Cartwright and Mrs Rosie Barnes, the result will come as a bitter blow and their support can be expected to haemorrhage further over the next few months.

They did, however, have the consolation of hearing Mr Roy Jenkins say that he would never play a part in any Alliance that was willing to put up candidates against the three of them. "The past creates its loyalties,"

Mr Jenkins criticized Dr Owen for putting forward within a week of the election the idea of an "amicable divorce" for those who sought merger with the Liberals and said that the party Dr Owen wanted to create was going to be "very narrow".

It simply did not require two parties to accommodate the people within the SDP conference hall, the differences between him and Dr Owen were purely of style, not of belief. The British people did not want a multiplicity of parties.

There was one severe embarrassment for the SDP leadership. The conference passed by a huge majority an amendment criticizing the party's national committee for setting off the traumas of the past 12 weeks by rushing into the ballot on merger.

Many delegates said, and Mr Jenkins and Mrs Williams have now admitted, that the ballot should not have been held until after the conference had discussed the issues.

One slight problem now may be an amendment carried yesterday by the conference by 166 votes to 148 calling for issues of SDP and Liberal



Colleagues in adversity: Mrs Rosie Barnes and Dr David Owen during yesterday's key vote on the future of the SDP.

Arrests near minister's home after death tip

By Craig Seton, Tony Dawe and Sheila Gann

Special Branch detectives were last night questioning two men and a woman following a tip-off from SAS officers in Ulster that Irish terrorists were planning an attempt on the life of Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

All three were arrested on Sunday, a man and a woman in the grounds of Mr King's home in Wiltshire, and the other man at the Wootton Bassett camp site in Somerset. They are all believed to be Irish and are being held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

Police refused to give any details of their operation. Mr King left home before the weekend for a holiday in Scotland.

Senior officers emphasized that there was no direct threat to Mr King and that no weapons had been recovered. He was told of the arrests

yesterday but issued no statement. He was known to be at the top of the IRA's "hit list" after threatening remarks by leaders of Sinn Féin.

The arrests followed several days of police surveillance at the Homestead camping and

possible attempt to murder Mr King from the SAS working underground in Ulster.

Whitehall sources were reluctant to accept yesterday's incident as a serious attempt by the IRA to assassinate Mr King.

The police moved into action on Sunday afternoon when the man and woman were spotted on Mr King's land, Chief Supt James Hogarth, head of Chippingham police, said: "I do not believe there was an immediate threat to the Secretary of State at the time they were detained but the two persons aroused sufficient curiosity of police officers that they were arrested and brought to Chippingham."

"Anything which concerns a possible threat to a Minister of State is a serious matter. To my knowledge there were no arms or explosives involved."

Continued on page 18, col 3

caravan site at Wootton Bassett, a man and a woman in the grounds of Mr King's home in Wiltshire, and the other man at the Wootton Bassett camp site in Somerset. They are all believed to be Irish and are being held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

Continued on page 18, col 3

CBI's warning on exports and jobs

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Conditions in the economy are buoyant with order books at their highest for 10 years, the Confederation of British Industry says today. But there are clouds on the horizon with signs of a slowdown in exports and the prospect of rising unemployment next year.

Meanwhile the National Westminster Bank forecasts an early rise in bank base rates to 11 per cent and no reduction from this level until next spring.

A rise in base rates to 11 per cent from the present 10 per cent level would push mortgage rates up to 12 or 12.5 per cent. They currently stand at 11.25 per cent.

The CBI's latest *Economic Situation Report* shows that there is a higher percentage of

firms with order books above normal than at any time since 1977.

But export order books have levelled off and the employers' organization predicts a sharp slowdown in exports next year, and a doubling of Britain's balance of payments deficit to £2.6 billion.

The level of unemployment is predicted to touch a low point of 2.7 million in the first quarter of 1988.

The CBI says the slowdown in the economy — with growth predicted to drop from 3.1 per cent this year to 2.2 per cent next — underlines their view that City worries that the economy is growing too fast for comfort are misplaced.

Details, page 19

Last septuplet dies

The last septuplet born to Susan and Neil Halton of Merseyside died at Liverpool Maternity Hospital yesterday.

Mr Halton, aged 29, said after the third of the seven babies died that if just one survived, the couple's heartbreak would have been worthwhile. But it was not to be.

The death of Kane Halton yesterday is likely to provoke

new controversy over the use of fertility drugs.

Mr Patrick Steptoe, the pioneer of test-tube baby techniques, was highly critical of the decision to allow Mrs Halton to give birth to the septuplets.

Other gynaecologists have defended the use of drugs, saying careful monitoring can prevent dangerous multiple births.

Family's anguish, page 3

Aquino is blamed for coup

From Michael Hamlyn, Manila

Senator Juan Ponce Enrile, the former Philippines Defence Minister, yesterday publicly blamed President Aquino's government for the country's political instability, virtually accusing her of bringing last week's coup attempt on herself.

Mr Enrile said that, although the smoke of battle had lifted, the grave crisis continued. He said: "Three words characterize this state of our national affairs today — gloom, despair and drift." He blamed the country's troubles on "a fundamental inability of this Government to arrest the gloom and drift of this nation, its lack of statecraft and its unwillingness to carve a sound political direction".

Meanwhile, the most wanted man in the Philippines, Colonel Gregorio Honasan, known as "Gringo", was still at large yesterday.

Colonel Honasan led Friday's failed coup attempt, and is now on the run. It was reported yesterday that another 500 of his renegade followers — in four Scorpion tanks, two armoured personnel carriers and six Jeeps — who were supposed to have linked up with his attack forces, had been captured.

Reports, page 7

83 killed after air near miss

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

All 83 people on board a Thai Airways Boeing 737 died when it spiralled into the sea near a holiday resort yesterday after apparently trying to avoid collision with another jet flying across its path.

The airliner was eight miles from touchdown at Phuket, the main tourist centre of southern Thailand, when a Boeing 737 belonging to Dragonair, based in Hong Kong, flew into its path as it, too, lined up for landing.

Normally an aircraft which is eight miles from touchdown would be about 2,400 ft above the ground and travelling at about 180 knots. Reports from the authorities at Phuket indicate that the Thai jet was at about 4,000 ft and had its landing gear down.

If that is found to be so, the pilot could have been using the landing gear to help him to lose speed and height. This is standard procedure, but the landing gear, together with either the aircraft's flaps or speed brakes would have slowed the aircraft to about 140 knots as it dropped to pick up the glide path.

The stalling speed of a 737 in that configuration and with 83 people on board would have been between 100 and 120 knots. Had the pilot taken

Continued on page 18, col 1

'Tanker war' is back in earnest

From Robert Fisk, Dubai

A gunboat attack by Iranian Revolutionary Guards on a Kuwaiti container ship, and a longer-range Iraqi Air strike against Iran's offshore oil-loading terminal at Larak Island, yesterday confirmed Western governments' grim predictions that the Gulf "tanker war" has restarted in earnest. The consequences for American and Allied warships in the region are incalculable.

Iraq quite deliberately rekindled the conflict in the Gulf waters with three days of air raids on Iranian oil platforms and tankers, but yesterday's Iranian attack finally proved that Tehran had been pushed to retaliate.

The victim on this occasion was the 20,526-tonne container ship *Jebel Ali*, sailing off the waters of the United Arab Emirates under a Kuwaiti flag but owned by a consortium of Arab Gulf nations.

Revolutionary Guard circled the vessel in three small ships and peppered its hull with small-arms fire and two rocket-propelled grenades, sending it limping into Dubai

The United Arab Emirates have given provisional approval for the Royal Navy's four minesweepers, now en route to the Gulf, to use ports there for maintenance and supplies. The permission was granted by Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahayyan, the Emir's President, in a letter to Mrs Thatcher. Page 6

Western hopes sink.....6

with its accommodation quarters and containers badly damaged. It was, comparatively, a minor attack and the Indian crew members were not injured.

The *Jebel Ali* was not sailing under the US flag, and thus had no American naval escort. But the symbolic value of the event far outweighed the damage, final evidence that the Iranians — who had exercised considerable restraint in the Gulf — had decided to honour their promise to hit back at Kuwaiti shipping if Baghdad restarted the "tanker war".

In Tehran, where the Iraqi assaults are seen as a deliberate provocation which could well be designed to draw in the Americans, the military authorities were said last night to be under growing pressure to mount attacks against US-flagged Kuwaiti tankers — a step which would inevitably involve the Americans in direct conflict. Yesterday's attacks could have happened at no more sensitive a moment.

In the Gulf's upper waters last night, six US warships

Continued on page 18, col 5

Six die, 53 missing in mine blast

From Nicholas Beeson, Johannesburg

At least six miners were killed and 53 others were missing yesterday after an underground explosion tore through the shaft of a gold mine in the Orange Free State.

The accident occurred early yesterday at the No 10 shaft of Gencor's St Helena mine, near Welkom, as more than 400 miners were underground. Most of the miners managed to return to the surface by making their way to the nearby No 8 shaft, but dozens of workers travelling in a lift 900 yards under the surface and several other miners at a pumping station 700 yards down were trapped.

Rescue workers dug their way through debris to within 30 yards from the pumping station last night and the company said a rope lift had been erected to try to hoist miners trapped in the cage.

A mine spokesman said voices could be heard coming from beneath the wreckage.

Miners' strength, page 6

THE TIMES Degree course vacancies

Today's Degree Course Vacancies Service includes the humanities (including languages), social sciences and sciences. Page 31

Exam results

Degree results from London University are published today. Page 13

Samuel dies

Lord Samuel of Wych Cross, who built Land Securities into the world's biggest property company, has died aged 75. Page 19, Obituary, page 12

Yacht storm

British yachtsmen have been implicated in the allegations of cheating during the Admiral's Cup last month, as disclosed in *The Times* yesterday. Page 36

Portfolio

There is £4,000 to be won in the Times Portfolio Gold competition today. There was no competition yesterday. Portfolio list, page 23.

INDEX

Home News	2-5
Overseas	6-7
Business	19-23
Sport	1-36
Appointments	26-28
Archaeology	12
Arts	13
Births, deaths, marriages	14
Bridge	12
Chess	2
City Diary	21
Court	12
Computer horizons	24-25
Crosswords	8, 18
Diary	10
Entertainments	16
Fashion	15
Features	6, 10
Information	16
Law Report	30
Legal reports	29-30
Leading articles	11
Letters	11
Obituary	12
Science	17
TV & Radio	12
Weather	18

Carnival violence disturbs police

Police were last night left counting the cost of a Notting Hill Carnival marked by violence and crime.

At one stage police were forced to draw truncheons and charge a crowd to protect an officer making an arrest.

The "limited charge" took place in the All Saints Road, Notting Hill, west London. Four police officers were injured in skirmishes that involved bottle throwing.

Mr Paul Condon, the Deputy Assistant Commissioner supervising 7,000 police over the two days of the carnival, admitted that his men could not guarantee individual safety on the streets after dark and he repeatedly urged visitors to go home.

"This weekend shows the two sides of carnival, the happy, joyous side and the more sinister side of murder, and well over 200 reported crimes in a day," he said.

Police said they had made 34 arrests and recorded hundreds of crimes, including the murder of Mr Michael Galvin, aged 23, who was stabbed on Sunday.

In another incident a woman had a gold chain ripped from her neck after a knife was held at her throat. Fifty people were given first aid and 14 were taken to hospital with serious injuries, some of them as a result of assaults.

At the peak of the carnival groups of up to 20 youths began pushing and jostling through the packed ranks of spectators, a tactic police said was used as cover for robberies.

Photograph, page 3

Non-smokers triumph in the corridors of power

From Our Correspondent, Brussels

For once one can predict it with some confidence: the clouds will begin to clear over Belgium this morning.

Rain or shine, tough new anti-smoking laws which come into effect today will banish the fog from public buildings.

Smokers face fines of between £25 and £50 for lighting up in the corridors and meeting rooms of public buildings, although a shortage of "No Smoking" signs means offenders may take time to realise that they are breaking the law.

Smoking is also banned from schools, hospitals and old people's homes, except in staff common rooms; from theatres and music halls,

and from the long queues in Belgian post-offices.

Even "a-lighting" as you get off a bus or train could be a costly mistake. Covered bus stops and station concourses are now reserved for the pure smokers in restaurants, discotheques and cafes — but not at cafes and bars in covered railway stations.

But while the new laws may be the worst kick the habit has received since King James II published his *Counterblast to Tobacco*, they will also leave a bruise on the long arm of the law.

Belgian policemen fear they may have to spend their time chasing publicly-smoked cigarettes, taking statements from outraged non-smokers and collecting fines, instead of chasing villains.

But police and public officials have been instructed to introduce the new measures gradually, starting with a gentle tap on the shoulder and moving on to fines for persistent offenders.

The laws are confusing and irritating for the smoker. Cigarettes are permitted in restaurants, discotheques and cafes — but not at cafes and bars in covered railway stations.

Travellers interviewed at St Peter's station in the Flemish city of Ghent expressed anger and frustration. One person at the station herded a "No Smoking" sign every day. If I can breathe here, I'll buy my beer elsewhere!

And another warned he would smoke in the station forecourt instead.

Mr Cyriel Ponnet, who runs the station's newspaper and tobacco

shop, said: "I think it's a ridiculous rule. Of course you should ban cigarettes in doctors' waiting rooms. But not here, where all the doors are always wide open. What's this going to do to my business?"

But the Ministry of Health is unperturbed. "We've had an enormous mail-bag. And pro-smokers are in a minority. We are getting an attitude of the non-smokers' supremacy," said a Ministry spokesman.

Belgian officials also tell a charming anecdote about Baroness Trumpling, who represented Britain as junior Health Minister when the subject of a similar ban in Common Market institutions was raised at a meeting earlier this year. They say she laughed and then chain-smoked throughout the discussion.

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NEWS SUMMARY

NF to challenge ban on march

The National Front is to take Mr Trevor Morris, Chief Constable of Hertfordshire, to the High Court today in an attempt to lift the ban on its planned march through Hemel Hempstead.

If it wins the action the party hopes it will pave the way for a series of marches through towns in the south of England as part of a recruitment drive.

The right-wing organization has been in shambles after a bout of infighting, which led to the defection of one wing to the British National Party, and a financial crisis.

The Front said: "We believe the chief constable is cynically trying to manipulate the Public Order Act to gag the National Front, a lawful political party, from gaining a public platform."

"IRA members and supporters have been allowed to march through Sheffield and Birmingham. Yet a political party that stands in elections and puts its manifesto before the British people is banned from marching."

Hostage vigil

A 12-hour prayer vigil to mark the 500th day since the capture of Mr John McCarthy, the British journalist, by gunmen in Beirut, ended early yesterday.

More than 100 candles were lit at the vigil at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street, central London, led by Mr McCarthy's girlfriend, Miss Jill Morrell, a fellow journalist at World Television News.

Mr McCarthy, aged 30, was kidnapped by four gunmen as he was about to leave Beirut in April 1986. Nothing has been heard of him since.

Pig farm slaughter

Two thousand pigs will be slaughtered this week on a Hampshire farm after the first outbreak of swine fever in more than 12 months.

The owner of New Farm, at South Warnborough, Alton, discussed compensation with ministry officials yesterday, when they imposed a ban on pig movement over a three-kilometre radius around the farm.

Last year, ten outbreaks were recorded and 8,000 pigs slaughtered. The chief suspect was imported infected pigmeat feed.

Firm's youth scheme

Dalgety, the food and agriculture group, is launching a youth scheme today to help the children of its 14,500 employees in Britain to find jobs and improve their employment skills.

The company has developed an "assistance package" which it believes will be particularly helpful in areas of high unemployment and in inner city areas.

The scheme involves a job-seeking and interview training course for school leavers and young people on government training schemes; a development training course for people with longer-term difficulties in finding or keeping regular employment; and help with higher education at colleges and polytechnics.

Defence rethink

The Scottish National Party is almost certain to alter its defence policy at its fifty-third national conference in Dundee this month.

A proposal to scrap the present stance of armed neutrality in an independent Scotland is bound to be voted through, and a new policy of co-operation with other European countries, on a non-nuclear basis, taken on board.

Mr Gordon Wilson, party chairman, said this would not mean membership of Nato.

Chandler triumph

Murray Chandler, the English grandmaster, and Michael Wilder, an international master from the United States, tied for first place in the Lloyds Bank masters chess tournament with eight points out of 10.

They drew their match in the final round yesterday after 33 moves. Both players won £1,000.

Chandler, as the highest placed chess player, also took the Commonwealth championship, which was held in conjunction with the Lloyds competition.

Beatles show is a hit

More than 1,500 Beatles enthusiasts from around the world were at the Adelphi Hotel in Liverpool over the Bank holiday to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the group's first hit single, "Love Me Do".

Visitors to the fifth annual Beatles Convention included Pete Best, the drummer who was replaced by Ringo Starr, and teenagers not born when the band signed its first record deal.

Mr David Jones, the organizer, said: "It has been a major success, with fans arriving from at least 25 countries. They have bought memorabilia, made more precious because they got it in Liverpool, and we have had four Beatles sound-alike bands playing in the evenings."

Urban crime drive helps to ease fears

By Peter Davenport

From the outside the house, at 21 Willesden Terrace, next door to the Forest Hall police station, looks no different from any of the other homes on the estate, on the outskirts of Newcastle upon Tyne.

But for the past 18 months it has been the headquarters of a highly successful Home Office experiment to tackle urban crime.

Urban crime in the area has been cut by up to half in some categories, with house break-ins down by 25 per cent.

Supt Neil Hall, who co-ordinated the anti-crime programme, said: "Not only have we succeeded in achieving real reductions in the numbers of crimes recorded, we have significantly reduced the fear of crime for many people, so that the quality of their lives has improved."

The experiment has proved so successful that it is to be introduced permanently in all the six divisions of the Northumbria police.

The results are also likely to be incorporated into Home Office recommendations for reducing crime, to be sent to local authorities and police forces throughout the country.

The Tyneside scheme concentrated on the areas of Longbenton and Killingworth, some 7,000 mainly council-owned homes, many high-rise, with high unemployment and a large transitory population.

The scheme was run by a committee of representatives

from 15 agencies including the police, the local authority, the probation service and the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (Nacro).

Social workers and probation officers conducted their own questionnaire among 50 convicted criminals. It was discovered that most offenders usually lived within one mile of their target. They generally gained access to ground floor windows and most crimes were opportunistic.

The housing department allocated £10,000 for improving security on council properties. The Department of the Environment gave £185,000 for other prevention methods such as the redesign of entrances to flats. Police helped to establish more than 150 neighbourhood watch schemes.

At the end of the programme burglaries of homes were down 25 per cent; break-ins at non-residential premises were down 51 per cent; theft of vehicles was down 23 per cent and criminal damage had reduced by 18 per cent.

The only crime that failed to come down was theft from cars, which rose by 22 per cent.

Mr Hall said there was no evidence that criminals had simply moved out of the area to carry out their crimes elsewhere.

At the end of the experiment, 92 per cent of residents wanted the initiative to continue and believed it had brought genuine benefit. Many said their fear of crime had been reduced.

Leading article, page 11

Security forces expected fresh terrorist attack



Police removing contents of a tent at Wookley Hole camp site after the arrests under the Prevention of Terrorism Act yesterday and (right) police guarding Mr King's house.

Security forces had been expecting a new wave of violence after Sinn Féin's failure to make a breakthrough in the Irish general election and in retaliation for the Anglo-Irish agreement (Sheila Gunn writes).

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, spoke of "a renewed desperation and viciousness of the IRA" in the wake of the murder of Lord Justice Maurice Gibson and his wife Cecily.

Mr Roy Mason, the former Labour Northern Ireland Secretary, who became a life peer in the dissolution honours list, gave a warning of a possible "kill-and-bomb campaign" aimed at smashing the Anglo-Irish agreement, which is intended to improve relations between Dublin and Belfast.

He put forward proposals for a higher security profile which are understood to have influenced Mr

King's decision in May to increase the security forces' presence in Ulster.

Mr King and Mrs Margaret Thatcher are considered the two prime targets for assassination by Irish terrorists and are given the tightest security.

The Northern Ireland Secretary's movements are never disclosed in advance and he can expect to be protected by Special Branch officers for as long as he is considered a

target. That could be for life.

During the general election campaign the four party leaders were protected by armed Special Branch officers. Such protection is normally given automatically only to Cabinet ministers and the six Northern Ireland ministers.

Since Mr King, aged 54, was appointed Northern Ireland Secretary two years ago he and his family have had to live with constant surveillance from a spe-

cially-trained security team.

In Northern Ireland that involves travelling in a armour-plated, bomb-proof car and working in a steel-plated office.

While Mr King accepts the security as part of the job, he has been known to defy it on occasion. Police officers were alarmed when he insisted on taking part in a victory parade after the general election in June through the streets of Bridgwater.

Poll shows new centre-left danger for Conservatives

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

A realignment of left-of-centre politics could badly damage Conservative Party support, an opinion poll suggests.

The poll discloses that 11 per cent of Conservative voters are willing to defect to either an Alliance Party or a breakaway SDP led by Dr David Owen after a merger between the Liberals and most SDP supporters.

This hope for the Alliance, now down to 14 per cent in the polls, comes in a survey by Market & Opinion Research International (MORI) for Times Newspapers on how people would vote if the Liberals and SDP merged.

It found that 20 per cent of voters would support a new Alliance while a further 10 per cent favour a breakaway SDP led by Dr Owen.

Voters were asked: "If the SDP split into two parties, one of which merged with the Liberals and one of which remained as a separate party led by David Owen, would you vote for the merged Liberal and SDP party; the separate party led by David Owen; or for some other party?"

The change in opinion would cost the Conservatives

On balance, do you believe the Liberal Party and SDP should or should not merge to become one party before the next election?

BASE: All

	June 11 Agenda Poll	June 25-July 1	Now
Total Alliance supporters	%	%	%
Yes	85	80	49
No	12	16	50
No view	3	4	1

	June	July	Now	Jul-Nov
Unemployment	68	65	65	0
NHS	28	21	19	-2
Law and Order	17	21	27	+6
Defence/Nuclear weapons	16	22	17	-5
Aids	4	5	6	+1
Schools/Education	24	19	16	-3
Defence/Foreign affairs	13	10	10	0
Others below 10% omitted				

11 per cent and Labour 4 per cent of their support.

Dr Owen's position would be bolstered by one quarter of current Alliance supporters with the rest of his support from Conservative and Labour defectors.

Enthusiasm for a merger among Alliance supporters has fallen from 80 per cent on polling day to 64.

The Liberals have more solid support than the SDP with their share of the Alliance

vote rising 9 per cent since the end of June compared with the SDP's loss of 4 per cent.

The poll, of 1,703 adults, was carried out between August 21 and 26, immediately after the Hungerford massacre, and shows a rise in concern for law and order.

Post-election depression is revealed by a rise of 25 per cent in dissatisfaction with the Government and all four political leaders. Mr Neil Kinnock fared best with a loss

in support of 1 per cent, while Mrs Thatcher's popularity has sunk six points since July, with Dr David Owen down seven points and Mr David Steel down eight.

There is increasing pessimism about Britain's economy with only 32 per cent now believing it will improve over the next 12 months, compared with 44 per cent in June.

©MORI/Times Newspapers SDP reports, Page 4

Teddy bear fever jams roads

By David Cross

As the clouds finally lifted to unveil the sun yesterday, millions of families made the most of the last Bank holiday of the summer, flocking to seaside resorts and other tourist attractions and jamming roads on their way home.

One of the biggest traffic jams was on the A1 around Stevenage, Hertfordshire, where thousands of teddy bear fans gathered at Knebworth House clutching their old toys for a giant picnic in aid of the national Children's Home.

There were also long delays on the M25 in Surrey where for the second day running Chessington Zoo had to close its gates in mid-morning to real animal lovers.

In the cities, too, the afternoon sun tempted shoppers seeking bargains at sales. Heathrow airport had its busiest weekend, with more than 330,000 passengers passing through its terminals.

In the Birmingham area, motorways into the city were choked with crowds on their way to watch the final day of the Formula 3000 car-racing spectacular on a 2.5 mile circuit around the city's streets.

The death toll on the roads rose to at least 17 with the death of four teenagers on their way home to Scunthorpe. Their car was in collision with a horsebox.

Three people were seriously injured when their yacht capsized off Studland Beach, Dorset, and a woman was badly injured when she fell 90 ft from a cliff near Lyme Regis, Dorset. Several bathers and windsurfers around Bournemouth, and Poole had to be rescued after strong currents dragged them out to sea.

Forecasters said that mixed weather would return today with outbreaks of rain in many parts of the country.

Docklands railway has busy first day

By David Cross

The Docklands Light Railway in London opened to the public yesterday, a month after the Queen officially launched the venture.

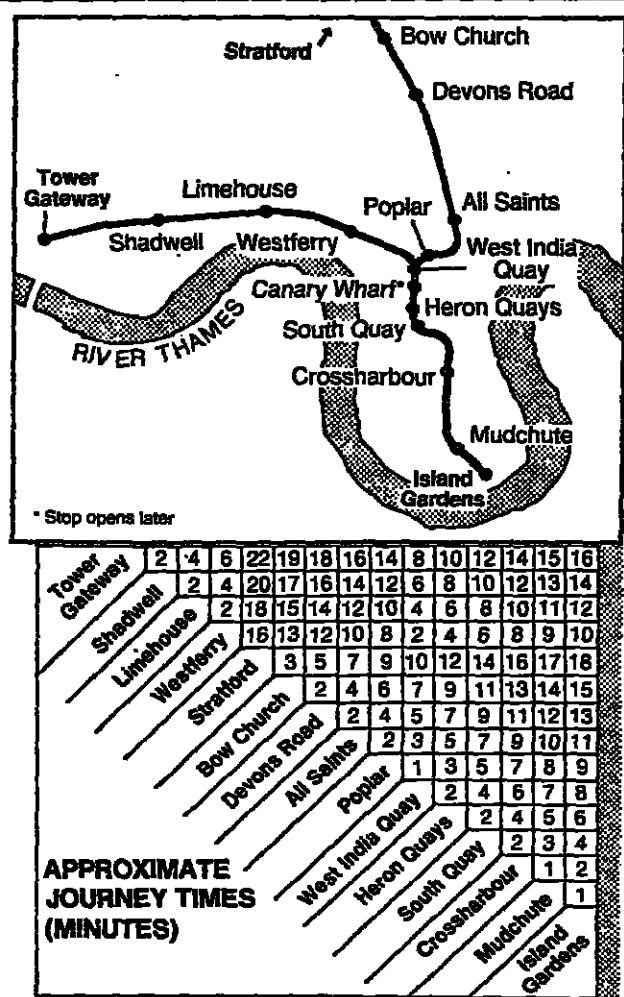
Thousands of sightseers and railway enthusiasts greeted the new trains, in their red, white and blue livery. There was barely a hiccup in the fully automatic system. Doubts about its reliability had postponed the opening.

Yesterday, though, with organizers boasting up to 4,000 passengers an hour passing through the busiest stations, most of the travellers along the 7.5 mile system between Island Gardens on the Isle of Dogs, Stratford and Tower Hill pronounced themselves impressed by the smoothness and efficiency of the £77 million project.

One incident marred the successful day: a window in one of the trains was smashed by a stone or brick at about 4pm. It was believed to have been thrown by children, near Limehouse station. Mr Clifford Bennett, the railway's managing director, said no one was injured but there was some disruption to service while the train was taken for repairs.

The incident did not detract from people's enjoyment of the launch. Mr Malcolm Hall, from Leyton in east London, said: "It's absolutely marvellous." Mr Hall, a railway enthusiast spent all morning travelling around the 15 stations of the line clutching a large cardboard cut-out kit of the new two-carriage train and other souvenirs of the inaugural day for his children.

Even the first breakdown, a points failure in mid-morning outside the Tower Gateway station which prolonged the



journey from Island Gardens on the southern tip of the Isle of Dogs to Tower Hill from a normal 18 minutes to 45, failed to dampen his spirits.

"When the Eastern region of British Rail switched from steam to electric in 1960 they spent nine months or so sorting out teething problems", he recalled.

Mr John White, a magazine advertising manager from Essex, was, however, more critical of the delay, which led to at least one full train-load of passengers being offloaded at West India Quay station, the next train being diverted to Stratford from Tower Gateway, and, when the points failure had been sorted out, stranded passengers piling into a second, already

crowded, vehicle. "Imagine what would have happened if we had been commuters travelling during the rush hour", he said.

Apart from the reliability of the system, which may pose problems during the first few weeks, two other hazards became apparent yesterday. Platforms are narrow and short and at popular stations like Towergate and Island Gardens passengers leaving trains found it difficult to make their way to the exits through the crowds of people trying to disembark. Also travellers accustomed to using the Underground system in London have to be careful to keep clear of doors which open into the passenger area instead of sliding apart.

'Working museum' urged for London

By Paul Eastham

Developers proposing a multi-billion pound commercial redevelopment behind King's Cross and St Pancras station in central London are being pressed to turn the core of the scheme into a working industrial museum.

The plan, put forward by property developers Rosehaugh Stanhope, is to transform a large tract of derelict railway sidings, a gas storage complex, homes and warehouses into 4 million sq ft of modern offices providing 20,000 jobs, a shopping centre bigger than Covent Garden, a large business park, and retail and exhibition centres.

But Camden Borough Council is worried that the proposed project, which would be twice the size of the largest London development so far, the £2 billion Canary Wharf scheme in docklands, would benefit incoming professionals more than residents.

The council has suggested developers examine the work of the historical research group Industrial Archaeological Associates, which wants to preserve the Victorian industrial heritage of the site as a tourist complex, creating work for local people.

It is likely that Camden's acceptance or rejection of Rosehaugh's proposals for the 100-acre site will hinge on the treatment given to a group of Victorian railway buildings.

Industrial Archaeological Associates say the buildings formed Victorian London's key transport facility.

The organization, with backing from the Victorian Society, wants many of the buildings restored to working order, with horse, steam and canal transport revived.

"London is Britain's main major population centre, but it does not have an industrial heritage museum like Beamish or Ironbridge", said Mr David Challis, a founder member of Industrial Archaeological Associates and a graphic designer at the Museum of London.

"We think this is an opportunity for something significant that would bring in tourism and employment."

Tory councillor quits over job appointment

A Bristol city councillor resigned yesterday from a new government-sponsored jobs agency in protest at the appointment of a man with a criminal record as its leader.

Mr John Vowles, a Conservative councillor, said that Mr Kuomba Balogun, a Rastafarian, had convictions for assaulting the police and fire-bombing a police station.

He said that he had not been informed of the decision to give the job to Mr Balogun, who was "totally unsuitable for the post".

Mr Vowles, a trustee, said that he wanted nothing more to do with the project, Bristol 1000, the government-sponsored local development agency set up to increase jobs in the St Paul's area of Bristol.

Other community leaders in the area welcomed the appointment.

Mr Owen Henry, chairman of the West Indian Parents

Russians to join US in nuclear research

By Pearce Wright

American and Russian scientists are to collaborate in the atomic energy field, designing a shared device for research into controlled nuclear fusion, the harnessing of the process that fuel the sun.

European countries and Japan have been invited to join the project. The shared machine, called the International Tokamak Experimental Reactor (ITER), will probably cost between £800 million and \$900 million.

The seeds of the US-Russian initiative were sown at the summit meetings in Geneva and Reykjavik between President Ronald Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev.

Recent discoveries in superconductivity have given an added spur to fusion research. The machines scientists are currently experimenting with employ powerful electro-magnets, consisting of large wire coils.

The new superconducting materials could simplify future equipment by using smaller wire coils and eliminating complicated refrigeration equipment.

The idea for ITER was taken up in March this year by the secretary general of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Dr Hans Blix.

The agency proposed that a group of experts from the United States, the Soviet Union, Euratom (the EEC's nuclear energy agency) and Japan produce a design for ITER by 1990.

Britain's technical contribution will be made by fusion research teams at the Culham and Joint European Torus (JET) laboratories near Oxford.

Fusion energy is released when two light elements combine to form a heavier one. It is the opposite of existing nuclear fission, where heavy uranium atoms are shattered into scores of lighter elements that comprise nuclear waste.

Dr Bas Pease, director of the Culham Laboratory, said yesterday that the complexity of fusion research made world-wide collaboration essential.

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Bank alters policy on recruitment after sex bias complaint

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Barclays Bank has changed its recruitment policy to ensure girls and boys have equal opportunities for promotion, in response to a move by the Equal Opportunities Commission.

The commission received a complaint from a headmaster in 1983 that his local branch of Barclays appeared to be recruiting boys and girls for different levels of work.

An inquiry by the commission revealed that Barclays recruited mainly boys with A levels with the expectation that they would become managers.

Girl school leavers were recruited predominantly with O levels for routine clerical jobs.

The commission also found that girls appeared to be seen as short-term recruits with different career patterns from boys.

The bank offered to implement changes and the commission agreed to defer its inquiry.

A legal agreement was signed setting out all the

changes proposed by Barclays.

The bank has subsequently introduced a new recruitment policy: an equal opportunity guide, training for recruitment staff to prevent discrimination and a monitoring scheme to ensure equal opportunity between the sexes.

The bank also agreed to provide the commission with statistics on recruitment for four years.

The agreement is in its second year and the commission has said it is satisfied with the progress that has been made.

The original criticism caused particular concern because almost one million women are employed in the banking and finance sector of industry.

It has been estimated they form 60 per cent of the total employees in the four main clearing banks.

These figures mean that about 10 per cent of all women in paid employment in Britain work in banking and finance.

The banks still employ women almost exclusively in lower clerical grades and few

have been promoted to management.

The commission's statistics show that in spite of the complaint, Barclays has the best record of the most well-known high street banks in promoting women into management positions.

Earlier last month Barclays attracted criticism when it withdrew the offer of a job to a girl because she was too fat.

Two similar cases involving the bank and female recruits have subsequently come to light.

In the original case, Miss Liza Costas-Parakevas, aged 16, of Stamford Hill, north London, was told she would be reconsidered for employment if she slimmed down from 13st 7lbs to an "acceptable" 10st 12lbs.

The 5ft 4ins schoolgirl applied to the bank for a job while waiting the results of eight O levels and was told it was hers provided the results of a routine medical examination were satisfactory.

Later Mr Don Avis, a Barclays personnel assistant, wrote to Miss Costas-Parakevas saying the bank's doctor had reported she was overweight and could not be accepted on the bank staff.

The bank's decision was criticized by the banking workers' union, the Confederation of British Industry and the Institute of Directors.

Barclays said it was company policy for the doctor to advise on the suitability of recruits on medical grounds and his ruling was always accepted.

Equal break, page 10



Carnival joy: The fun and fantasy of the Notting Hill Carnival summed up yesterday by exotically dressed Salina Waldrop, all of five years old but delighting in being chosen as Miss Junior Carnival, 1987 (Photograph: John Rogers).

Seventh Halton baby is dead

The last of the septuplets born prematurely in Merseyside last month died at Liverpool Maternity Hospital yesterday.

The baby's parents, Mrs Susan Halton, aged 27, and her husband Neil, aged 29, of Clippess Lane, Haydock, were with their son when he died at 11.30am.

Mrs Halton gave birth to the septuplets, the first in Britain, after treatment with a fertility drug.

Three of the seven died within 72 hours, another two in the next 24 hours and the sixth last Thursday. The last, Kane, had been given only a 50 per cent chance of survival.

Mrs Halton and her husband had been trying for a baby since they married seven years ago.

The seven babies, four girls and three boys, were delivered by caesarian section in just over seven minutes in the early hours of Saturday, August 15.

Dr Richard Cooke, the paediatrician at the hospital, and his team had already safely steered the Walton septuplets through the difficult first weeks of life into healthy young girls.

But the Waltons had been born after 31 weeks of pregnancy, the Haltons at just 25 weeks. They were very weak and immature. After just 25 minutes the fourth child born, a little boy weighing just one pound, died.

After the deaths of the first three babies, Mr Halton said in spite of their grief the couple had no regrets about using the fertility drug. If all went wrong, they might even consider using one again.

He said: "If you could understand seven years of frustration, pain and anguish, any person, man or woman, who really wants a child goes through this, willingly almost, if that is the only way they can have children."

The next day two more babies died. The last two, Kane and Laura, continued to cling to life. With every day that passed it was felt their chances of survival were improving.

Mrs Halton was declared fit to leave hospital a week later on the evening of Wednesday, August 26. Just hours after her discharge the couple were told that Laura, third born, at one pound 10 ounces, had died.

After the birth of the septuplets Mr Patrick Steptoe, a pioneer in test tube baby techniques, was highly critical of the decision to allow so many babies to be born. Mr Steptoe said: "If this whole treatment is properly managed and monitored this would not occur."

Mrs Winifred Francis, the consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist who delivered the seven babies, said yesterday she had not altered her views on the use of fertility drugs. Earlier Mrs Francis had said: "Despite all the monitoring and doing all the right things you will occasionally get a multiple birth, which is a risk that no amount of monitoring will remove."

Nurse found in taverna

A nurse who failed to return home to Portadown, Co Armagh, 10 days ago has been found safe in a Greek taverna.

Miss Roxie Burns, 23 yesterday, was discovered in the Lobster Taverna on Paros island unaware that Interpol had been called in to search for her when it was found that her ticket to Belfast had been used by someone else.

Hijacker held in clinic

A labourer from Liverpool is being held in a West German psychiatric clinic after forcing a Dan-Air flight from Venice to Manchester to land at Frankfurt. He told the crew he had a bomb.

A Foreign Office spokesman said the man would not be charged, "because of some German nicety about his mental condition".

10,000 object to £400m pit

A 10,000-signature petition against British Coal's planned £400 million pit at Hawkhurst Moor, near Coventry, will be presented to Solihull Borough Council tomorrow.

Local protesters say the pit will destroy the environment. British Coal says it will create 2,500 jobs and produce 145 million tonnes of coal.

Charge after funfair death

Andrew Ford, aged 20, of Newton Street, Easton, Bristol, was yesterday remanded in custody until September 28 when he appeared before city magistrates, charged with murder.

Mr Ford was accused of stabbing Lee Jounson, aged 16, of Manor Farm, Horfield, at a Bank holiday funfair.

Comprehensive education

Study criticized as 'attack on Baker'

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

A Scottish schools study which, its authors claim, proves that comprehensive schools have been good for examination results was sharply criticized as "a belated attack on the Government's plans for parent power" by the National Grammar Schools Association yesterday.

The study by two Edinburgh University academics says that during the 1970s and 1980s examination results improved under a comprehensive system. But increased parental choice "could well halt or even turn around" the improving trend, according to the authors, Andrew McPherson and Professor Douglas Williams.

The comprehensive versus selective argument has also been reopened by a MORI poll last week which said that two thirds of parents questioned would prefer selection.

The poll also said that the expectation was that many grammar schools under threat will hold onto their identity by applying for direct grants

under the Government's proposed "opt-out" scheme.

While the new director of the Centre for Study of Comprehensive Schools welcomed the Scottish study, saying it had "killed off the myth that standards are falling", Mr Roger Peach, chairman of the National Grammar Schools Association, said: "Over the past 15 years spending on education in Scotland has actually doubled in real terms and there is no proof that standards would not have improved in a selective system in the same time."

His association, launched early this year, is campaigning for the retention of the 150 remaining grammar schools and is firmly backing the Government's parent-power schemes.

Such views conflict with other parent groups, including the Campaign for the Advancement of Secondary Education and the National Confederation of Parent-Teacher Associations who, Mr Peach said yesterday, "really

represent very few parents indeed".

The grammar schools association is, however, lobbying ministers to persuade them to allow schools which opt out of local authority control also to opt out of the proposed national curriculum on a par with independent schools.

Mr Peach, a Conservative Whitshire county councillor, added: "The study proves nothing - it just states the blindingly obvious in that better spending on education gets better results."

"Furthermore, the number of girls entered for examinations has increased massively over that period and it is often found that any improvement in exam results is mopped up by that factor alone."

The study looked like a belated counter attack on the reforms planned by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, in giving parents the

right to more choice of schooling, Mr Peach said.

However Mr Neville Stewart, the incoming director of the Centre for the Study of Comprehensive Schools, a York-based national policy group which liaises between teachers and industry and disseminates information on good practice, said there was no doubt that a similar study in England and Wales would also show comprehensive schools to have improved examination results for all ability groups.

Mr Stewart became head of Deeside High School in Cwyd in 1971 shortly after it was formed from a grammar-secondary modern merger and the positive effect on examination results was immediate, he said.

"The entry rate for exams was below 50 per cent when the two schools amalgamated. Shortly afterwards it went up to 90 per cent. The improvement was right across the board."

Princess visits drug abusers

The Princess of Wales yesterday interrupted her Balmoral holiday to meet drug abusers at two centres in Glasgow.

She went first to the Possil Drug Project which opened in January 1985 for community-based counselling, advice and information.

The princess met five patients. She asked what drugs they were on and what had driven them to the habit. Heroin user Lorraine, aged 21, told her: "There is nothing to do round here - no jobs, no money. Everyone takes drugs."

Later, the addicts said the princess, who had asked to visit, showed sympathy and interest.

The princess went on to Southern General Hospital where 200 patients and staff cheered her arrival. About 50 new patients and 24 who are recovering attend each three-month programme of the drugs scheme, which receives £70,000 a year from the Scottish Office.

The Duchess of York has agreed to open a community centre for impoverished villagers during her official visit to Mauritius this month. The £100,000 for the Duke and Duchess of York's Cultural and Handicraft Centre at Quatre Cocos was raised in Britain and on the island.



Words of sympathy from Jackie Stewart (left) for his disconsolate son Paul, after a crash in the qualifying laps for yesterday's Birmingham Superprix. Motor sport, page 35.

Path maps dated, say rambblers

By Andrew Morgan

The Ramblers Association has written to Lord Belstead, minister of state at the Department of the Environment, to urge action after a recent survey of 11,500 footpaths found that three-quarters were difficult to walk or undefined.

Mr John Trevelyan, the deputy director, asks Lord Belstead to honour the Government's manifesto pledge to protect public access to countryside footpaths.

He expresses concern about the slowness in bringing up to date the definitive map of such footpaths.

It is estimated that more than 12 million people used the country's footpaths during the Bank holiday weekend, including many of the association's 55,000 members.

Mr Trevelyan has asked the minister for a meeting to discuss the footpath issue.

Mr Trevelyan's letter contends that a code of practice evolved after a Countryside Commission report in 1985, which highlighted the ploughing of footpaths, was shown to have little effect.

Mr Trevelyan says that in Lord Belstead's home county of Suffolk, 80 per cent of the 847 reports showed that paths were difficult to find. In other cases, the original definitive maps drawn up in the 1950s had not been updated.

£2m price on £36,000 painting

The man who sold a painting for £36,000 at Sotheby's in July was philosophical yesterday when he learnt it had been identified as a £2 million masterpiece.

Mr Andrew Fountaine, a founder member of the National Front, who lives at Narford Hall, in Norfolk, said he had sold the picture to pay for treating the hall's dry rot.

"I am quite satisfied, it made more than the experts expected. It is a painting of members of my family, not some gimmick that has suddenly been discovered in the attic. I am very sceptical and would be very surprised if it was worth more than I got for it."

"If it is, I wish the chap all the luck in the world."

Mr Fountaine, aged 69, said his ancestors were great collectors of art in the eighteenth Century and the painting had hung in his home for 200 years.

Sotheby's put a £20,000 - £30,000 estimate on the picture, describing it as "English School, circa 1780", but the buyer, Mr David Posnett, managing director of the Legat Gallery in Old Bond Street, Mayfair, maintained it by the American artist John Singleton Copley.

Last September Mr Posnett paid £27,000 for a painting in a Sotheby's house sale at Mount Juliet, in Co Kilkenny, Ireland, and subsequently sold it to the National Maritime Museum for £650,000.

Sotheby's had failed to recognize it as a portrait of the explorer Captain Cook, painted by the official painter on Cook's second expedition, William Hodges.

Mr Posnett is convinced Mr Fountaine's family portrait, of four people in a drawing room, is a Copley. At the Courtauld Institute of Art in London he found two undisputed drawings by Copley, depicting the boy from the Fountaine painting.

Mr James Miller, Sotheby's British pictures expert, has declined to comment on Mr Posnett's claims.

Sotheby's is understood to have shown the painting to several museums before the auction but none recognized it as a Copley.

Call for youth club gambling controls

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Slot machines are being installed in youth clubs throughout Britain fuelling an already alarming increase in gambling by young people, according to a report to the National Association of Senior Probation Officers which calls for tougher gaming controls.

"This proliferation of machines is to be deplored", the report says.

"All the evidence to date indicates an alarming increase in gambling by young people with gaming arcades in the front line in feeding and encouraging addiction."

Evidence collected by Mr David Child, the author of the report, points to a clear link between crime and gambling addiction.

He says: "The time for positive action is long overdue and the Home Office must show a clear lead and positive commitment in dealing with the problem."

Mr Child, who is a senior probation officer in the association's north-east branch, cites a report which reveals that more than 2,000 children

under the age of 16 are taken by their parents to Gamblers Anonymous every year.

Amusement arcades provide traditional wet weather family entertainment at seaside resorts - a place to relieve tension and let off steam, he says. Inadvertently, they also provide the breeding ground for many addictive gamblers.

"Once young people start gambling, most find it difficult to stop."

The report, which will be presented to the association's national executive on September 10, recommends:

● Amusement arcades should not have gaming machines on the premises.

● The law should ban entry to gaming arcades by anyone under 18.

● There should be a new governing body to license, control and supervise arcades.

The report is intended for the attention of Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, who in May announced research designed to investigate the use young people make of amusement machines.

Claimants to challenge lodging benefit limits

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Limits on board and lodging payments to people on supplementary benefit are being challenged by claimants today and tomorrow.

Three social security officials will hear six cases of a shortfall for people in private or voluntary residential care or nursing homes against the fees charged. If the cases are successful, claimants stand to gain up to £100 a week.

Since the end of 1984, the Government has introduced several regulations, all prescribing the maximum amount which can be paid for board and lodging.

The appeals, which are supported by the Child Poverty Action Group, acting on behalf of two claimants, challenge the legal validity of setting a maximum for such accommodation.

Mr Jan Luba, the group's legal officer, said: "This system has caused great hardship

for many claimants who are mainly elderly people, single people, young people or single parents."

In one case a couple were paying £210 a week each for a place in a private nursing home. Within a month the charges had eaten into their savings and they were able to claim supplementary benefit.

The local office of the Department of Health and Social Security applied a limit of £165 a week and, in spite of being able to claim some extra benefits, the couple faced a substantial shortfall. Increased charges at the home have increased that shortfall, which has had to be met by the couple's daughter who herself is nearing retirement age.

"The financial implications of the case are considerable. Cost factors are at the heart of the Government's determination to uphold the April 1985 regulations", said Mr Luba.

Education fund aids advanced cancer care

By Kerry Gill

An education programme in the advanced care of cancer patients is to be established at Glasgow University in the autumn.

The five-year, £315,000 project, funded by the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, will provide doctors and nurses with training in physical as well as emotional, psychological and social care.

The scheme will include specially-trained medical staff, courses and seminars and the development of an advisory team at the Victoria

Infirmary and Marie Curie Home, under Professor Kenneth Calman, professor of postgraduate medical education at the university.

Professor Calman said yesterday: "The area of advanced cancer patient care is one in which a great deal can be done to the benefit of the patient and of the medical and nursing staff."

The Macmillan fund finances 11 projects, totalling about £4 million, aimed at improving education in cancer patient care.

Geldof inspires idea of international orchestra

By Lynda Martin

An international orchestra inspired by the fund-raising work of Bob Geldof is to be launched in London today.

L'Orchestre du Monde has been formed by the British-based concert pianist James Pustrovisz Stechley to raise money for charity.

"I was so excited by what Bob Geldof did a couple of years ago that it occurred to me the classical arts could play a regular role in helping human causes around the world", Mr Stechley said last night.

The orchestra, with musicians of international stand-

ing, will play its inaugural concert at the Banqueting House, Whitehall, on September 19. The programme of Bach's six Brandenburg Concertos will be in aid of the Save the Children fund's appeal for child victims of Aids.

Four concerts a year in world capitals are envisaged for the orchestra.

Mr Stechley, aged 33, its artistic director and conductor, said other aims were to provide an opportunity for international musicians to perform together and to make classical music more popular.

"I have done a lot of travelling as a concert performer and been to Africa

quite a bit", he said. "I have become very conscious of what is going on there. You see these pathetic babies with Aids - it's a desperate situation."

He will continue performing as a concert pianist while organizing the new orchestra's four annual events. With various sponsorship and donation schemes, he hopes to generate far more revenue than can be earned simply from ticket sales.

The list of patrons for L'Orchestre du Monde already includes Sir Michael Tippett, Sir David Willocks, the Duke of Wellington and Mr Richard Baker.

The role of the arts in promoting good international relations has been endorsed by Mrs Raisa Gorbachov, wife of the Soviet leader, in a letter to an administrator at the National Theatre.

The letter was sent to Thelma Holt, organizer of the International Theatre 87 series at the National Theatre, which will feature Moscow's Mayakovsky theatre company in October.

Mrs Gorbachov wrote that the Mayakovsky visit would "allow the people of your country, with its rich traditions of culture, to meet once again the Soviet arts and feel

their closeness and attachment to the values common to all mankind."

Thelma Holt said last night: "I am particularly pleased that someone in that position is aware of just how important the arts are."

"At the moment things are very good between us, but there are turbulent political times and one of the few areas where one can keep the door open, if only a few inches, is the arts."

She has written back to Mrs Gorbachov, inviting her to see the National Theatre when the company performs in Moscow next year.

SDP CONFERENCE

Jenkins onslaught on idea of a separate 'rump' group

Mr Roy Jenkins wound up the pro-merger case at the end of an all-day debate with a harsh attack on the idea of a rump group of Social Democrats continuing as a separate party after any merger of the SDP and the Liberals.

He accepted his part of the leadership's responsibility for the "surge towards self-destruction".

He stood out against the idea of a merged party pitting candidates against Dr David Owen, Mr John Cartwright and Mrs Rosie Barnes but spoke bitterly about the "minority" trying to push the "majority" out of the party.

Mr Cartwright said that they were united in the desire for speedy negotiations and said that many members would not make up their minds until they saw their outcome.

Mr Jenkins said it was impossible for him to address the conference without feeling the poignant contrast between this occasion and previous conferences. Then there had been jokes, friendship, mutual esteem and, they were told, almost too much rational tolerance, not enough virulence and passion.

"Now there is a danger of mutual incomprehension, too much rancour and too few jokes."

"How could it all have deteriorated so quickly? It must be said that all of us in positions of leadership made an awful mess of the past 11 weeks."

He had a lot of sympathy with those who felt let down and whose instinctive reaction was a plague on all our houses. He did not believe that the question of timing or whether or not they were

"bounced" by Mr David Steel was of the essence. It had been made clear that there were some who would not have joined the merged party whenever or however it had been brought about.

Dr David Owen and he had substantially

Motion 6, moved by Mrs Shirley Williams, the SDP president:

"This council, in the light of the result of the ballot of the membership on future relations between the SDP and the Liberal Party, requests the national committee to take into account the views of the council on the principles on the basis of which consequential negotiations should be conducted."

different political styles but they had precious little difference of policy.

"If he and I cannot be comfortable

together in the party which we, with others, jointly founded then the party he wants is going to be very narrow and the future spectrum is going to involve a very large number of very small parties. It is an immensely dangerous fantasy to behave as though you were already living under proportional representation.

"If it takes two parties to accommodate us with all our basic agreement, you can hardly expect to accommodate the rest of the political spectrum within just another two."

"I do not think it does need two for us."

The result of the ballot was as significant as any such result was ever likely to be. The SDP had voted to seek a greater unity and to integrate therein. The objection to Amendment 42 was that it suggested they behave as though that were not so.

The minority could not be treated as the sole repository of the true faith. Once that simple democratic principle was accepted the difficulties could be unraveled.

Mr John Cartwright, MP, summing up for those against merger, said that whether they were for, against or waiting to make up their minds, they were all agreed that the events of the past few weeks had been a tragedy.

He had said during the weekend after the election that immediately after a bruising and disappointing election was the last time to take a strategic judgement about the future of British politics or of the Alliance.

They needed a greater sense of realism. Some people seemed to imagine that all they had to do was to sound the trumpet of a new party and wait for the walls of the old

system to collapse. It was not like that, nor should it be.

Warning against the possibility of continued faction fighting in the party, he said that he had had many years of that in the Labour Party, and wanted no part of it again.

He recalled the speech in which he had told 100 members of Woolwich Labour party general council on February 28, 1981, that he could not stay in one political party when his heart was in another. He had told them that there would be a social democratic party and that was where his heart was.

"I still feel exactly the same way"

The Malnick amendment offered a chance of a peaceful settlement, of salvaging something from the wreck. They should not throw away that chance.

AFTERNOON DEBATE

Party members not just assets, delegates told

Dr John Oldham said at the opening of the afternoon session of the debate on the party's future that he had never been more ashamed of the party than in the weeks before the conference when everybody and nobody had rushed to appear on the nation's media like some political version of streaking. Just like streaking, they had seen it all before.

"The members have decided we should negotiate. We should rally round Bob Maclean and do that" (applause).

Mr Pat Conneran said that some people talked of taking everything with them into merger. But he was not an asset to be taken anywhere. He was flesh and blood. "We are not going anywhere. We are not forming a new party. We are in the SDP. We are staying here. Good luck to people in negotiations but the SDP lives on."

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth, who lost his seat in Stockton South in the June election, said that he had been dismayed and angered by the events since the last general election. "We should have had no ballot because we did not know what we were balloting about" (applause).

It was wrong of Mr David Steel to pre-empt the issue. It was wrong of Dr David Owen to try to pre-empt it by going for the ballot straight away and not having any discussions about where they were going.

Sir Leslie Murphy, trustee, said that Dr David Owen and Mrs Shirley Williams appeared to be sinking into two sides of an impenetrable divide. Everyone should have another look about the issue and what it involved.

Mrs Sally Malnick, Barmen, moving her amendment, said that she was not pro or anti-merger. She had not yet seen the ballot paper. She had taken a long time to make up her mind on the first ballot because of the uncertainties about the political scenario. But she accepted 100 per cent the result of the ballot.

Her amendment was not incompatible with the Kennedy amendment and it did not create divisions but recognized that there were real differences and they had to concentrate on a solution.

First they had to define the problem. The only definition of the SDP was that it was a collection of individuals. If you take away the policies or the assets you still had the SDP. But if you take away the members, then you do not have an SDP. Members had to be able to exercise their democratic rights not to join the new party.

internally. The impression of going off in both directions would have invited even more public derision than the SDP has attracted already.

More important might have been the effect on the negotiations themselves. Had the conference seemed so uncertain doubts would have been strengthened as to whether an agreement with the Liberals would be endorsed by the SDP. The confidence of the negotiators might have been undermined.

Now, with the passing of the Kennedy amendment and the rejection of the Malnick amendment, the prospect is that the SDP will negotiate positively but hard. They can be expected to negotiate positively because that is their mandate from this conference as well as from the membership at large.

But it is also clearly the will of the party that firm assurances should be sought from the Liberals. These will be concerned principally with the structure and general principles of a new party. For I would expect something to be said about policy as well.

The battles of Portsmouth have made it all the more necessary for the SDP negotiators to come back to their party in the course of convincing terms.

I would expect the negotiations to succeed and I believe it will be in the best interests of the two parties if they do. But the person who could afford them to fail without loss of face or charge of inconsistency is the new SDP leader, Mr Robert Maclean. That should strengthen his position and give added interest to his first speech today as party leader.

Decisive majority for pro-merger motion

Members of the Council for Social Democracy voted by an overwhelming majority for a proposal from Mr Charles Kennedy, a pro-merger MP, setting out the principles to be followed by the party's team in its negotiations with the Liberal Party.

The council rejected by 228 votes to 151 a proposal moved by Ms Sally Malnick, setting out a mechanism to divide the party after negotiations if some members did not wish to merge.

During the debate many members suggested it was an amendment designed to wreck the talks.

There was overwhelming support for an amendment that severely criticized the party leadership for handling the merger issue and for balloting the membership prematurely.

The main motion in the morning session of the debate on the party's future was moved by Mrs Shirley Williams, president of the party.

She said that it was effectively a shell motion, enabling the Council for Social Democracy to recommend to the national committee the principles and guidelines that should be taken into account by the negotiating committee set up as a result of the ballot to discuss the merger issue and for balloting the membership prematurely.

At the next meeting of the council (at the end of January in Swansea) there would be a report on the negotiations and if the council decided by a two-thirds majority that the constitutional amendments should be put to the membership as a consequence of those negotiations, it would be for the membership to vote in a ballot and their decision would be mandatory and binding.

"There cannot be a negotiation unless it is conditioned and the responsibility of the council is to determine what those conditions should be and to indicate which it regards as fundamental and which as less important."

She pleaded for clear and decisive advice to the negotiating team.

Mr Peter Leighton (Waltham Forest) moved the first amendment, critical of the national committee. He said that the question of merger or some other relationship with the Liberal Party was not necessarily an article of faith or of ideological doctrine.

"We are most concerned with the integrity and unity of our own party. After a bruising and damaging general election, all of us were disappointed with the

way we saw votes piling up against Alliance candidates in seats where we thought we should have won."

Everyone had known that they would have to consider their relationship with the Liberal Party after the election, but he had not expected the hysterical reaction from the national committee in response to Mr David Steel's statement.

Mrs Jane Padgett, Sheffield,

said that the Council for Social Democracy should have a greater say over the wording of the next ballot. That would be one way of restoring the confidence of the membership. It was a party of the members and certainly not a party of the leaders or the paymasters.

Dr John Bancroft, a psychiatrist from Edinburgh, said that he had come to the conference with his family therapy kit and found they wanted mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

Mr Antony Kinch, from Brussels, said that Mr David Steel said that he was prepared to ditch 150 years of Liberal his-

tory in the creation of a new party. He did not even have to have Liberal in its name. "I do not believe that David Steel can deliver. The Liberals could not be persuaded."

argument was not just about principles but also about personalities and rivalries and about too many people wanting to be big fish in a small pond.

"If a company's directors had

produced the kind of mess we are in, the shareholders would be demanding that the whole damned board was sacked."

Mr Keith Smith (Edinburgh) said that he believed that a closer relationship was possible and desirable, provided that it dealt with two issues on which they were electorally vulnerable. They needed a mechanism for policy making and a single leader for the next election.

Mr Neville Pressley (Shoreham, Sussex) said that if the SDP insisted that its defence policy should be retained and the Liberal Eastbourne motion on defence be dispatched to the waste bin, there would be no agreement. Liberals had principles, too, and did not deserve to be criticized for having them.

Mr Richard Salisbury (Gwynedd) said that policies should not be decided by the negotiating team, but by the members of the new party. The whole emphasis of Mr Grant's amendment, to have policy issues resolved during negotiations, was wrong. They should not be talking about policies but about principles.

They needed a name so that people would know what they were about, without having to look in a manifesto. Fortunately there was such a word: democracy. All those in the SDP and Liberal parties believed in democracy but none of the other parties did so. The new party should be called the Democratic Party.

Miss Sue Shipman said that she did not believe in solving political problems through structural solutions and if they attempted that by imposing policy solutions which looked like the SDP, they would scupper the negotiations.

Mr Charles Kennedy, MP for Ross, Cromarty and Skye, moved his amendment saying that Dr David Owen had been correct in saying that politics was about where you stand and how you see things from that vantage point.

Given his background within the party as an observer and in a sense a participant in the events which had taken place, he had been seeing a re-run of old battles and old scores in old parties. "I want no part of it. They were old battles to which I was not a witness, old scores to which I was not a party and old parties in which I am not interested" (applause).

When the history of this sorry episode came to be written, the parliamentary party would come out with considerably more credit than it might be accorded at the moment.

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Mr Harvey Showman said that perhaps the savagery of the past weeks was planned in advance. "We know that some of our leadership at least regarded our party as a catalyst, a temporary measure, a stepping stone, a party without a future. Well, I was never told (applause)."

"If I am to die politically, I would rather die with my boots on and my principles intact rather

than be eaten alive by a Liberal Party showing no sign of any willingness to modify its policies."

"Whatever name we retain, either by agreement or by virtue of the courts, we will always be known as Social Democrats just as surely as the merged party, whatever name is chosen, will always be known as the Liberals."

Mr Mark Gwyder, of Swale, moved an amendment seeking a commitment in discussion of political principles to an open, classless society, social and economic justice, political reform and collective security.

Mr John Brown said the

amendment was not just about principles but also about personalities and rivalries and about too many people wanting to be big fish in a small pond.

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THE OWEN INTERVIEW

A political conference about one man

By Robin Oakley
Political Editor

All the hoo-ha at this week's SDP conference is essentially about one man and his vision of what the party should be. He denies it, but if a fourth party is created it will essentially be a vehicle for Dr David Owen.

If it were any other member of the Gang of Four considering a breakaway it would be no more than a one-day wonder, not the longest-running news story of the summer.

His political friends and enemies, most of them the same people, will therefore delve into a remarkable new portrait of Dr Owen, in the shape of an extended and candid interview which is published today.

It is hard work being a man of destiny. This Owen-dictated authorized version of the history of the SDP does tend to show him as the only man in step, constantly undermined by less far-seeing colleagues in his attempt to establish a distinctive, principled, hard-centred party and to keep it out of the hands of those well meaning but dangerously woolly Liberal cousins.

He puts this week's troubles down to the fact that when he and other young Labour MPs were discussing the creation of a fourth party Mr Roy Jenkins and Mr William Rodgers III, meaning that the party was to be dogged for evermore by the

division between those who were confident about the SDP's future as a separate party (Owen and chums) and those who were constantly looking over their shoulder for a relationship with the Liberals (clearly the other three members of the Gang of Four).

Dr Owen has been consistent. He stayed away from the Liberal Assembly at Llandudno in 1981 where the Alliance was effectively born at a fringe meeting.

He fought from the beginning against the joint selection of parliamentary candidates by members of the two parties, fearing that it would lead to the blurring of policy as would-be SDP MPs made

obedience to Liberal sympathies.

He resisted as long as he could the appointment of joint parliamentary spokesmen for the Alliance. He insisted on clear policy pronouncements, especially on defence.

For Dr Owen the emphasis from the beginning was on two separate parties with an electoral arrangement. To him policy has always been crucial, clarity more important than cleverly. But he found himself a minority voice. "I've often said now, were seeing every issue in terms of what it meant for relationships with the Liberals."

He castigates Mr Rodgers for giving away the game before it started by suggesting

parity of seats with the Liberals — Dr Owen wanted the lion's share for the SDP.

He castigates Mr Jenkins for seeing the SDP from the beginning as a mere transit camp on the way to the Liberals but never telling his Gang of Four colleagues that that was his view.

He accuses Mrs Williams and Mr Rodgers of sewing up a detailed deal with Mr David Steel while the three were at an Anglo-German conference at Königswinter in April 1981, thus bouncing the SDP into a structured relationship with the Liberals before the new party had had time to develop its strength and bargaining position. He blames Mrs Williams for weakening the SDP in its relationships with the Liberals by not fighting Warrington and Mr Jenkins for doing so by insisting on fighting Hillhead.

At one point, speaking of the merger scheme, Dr Owen says: "The imposition of premature unity would be destructive, not creative". The events at Portsmouth bear eloquent testimony to that judgement.

But as the SDP moves into the self-destruct phase, leaving as the biggest section of all the Bewildered Faction who cannot quite see where the great differences of principle are on which their party is being torn apart, it is not only the merger enthusiasts who are to blame.

David Owen Personally Speaking by Kenneth Harris (Weidenfeld and Nicolson: £12.95).

Conference reports by Robert Morgan, John Winder and Peter Mulligan



Three views of the conference: Mr John Cartwright (top), Mr Robert Maclean and Miss Sue Shipman.

DELEGATES

'Meeting in North' plea is accepted

An amendment urging that the next meeting of the Council for Social Democracy should be held in the north of the country was accepted.

It was put forward on Sunday by Mr Richard Mowbray (Glasgow North), who complained that delegates had had to travel 450 miles from Glasgow and 650 miles from Aberdeen to reach the conference in Portsmouth.

He said that it would be helpful if the location were moved further north and no further south than Derby or Nottingham.

Voting change

A motion for a constitutional amendment to allow councillors, in common with peers and MPs, to elect their own representatives to the SDP's national committee was passed by 236 votes to 104, the necessary two-thirds majority, despite opposition from the conference platform.

The motion was moved by Mr John Cartwright, MP for Woolwich.

Business today

The highlight of today's proceedings will be the speech by the party's new leader, Mr Robert Maclean, MP for Caithness and Sutherland. Most of the rest of the time will be devoted to a review of policy in a series of debates under the title "Looking Forward: Issues for 1991".

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

new party is created the Owenites cannot be prevented from calling themselves the SDP.

Whatever might be said about incorporation by this or any other conference, there is not the slightest possibility of a united SDP being taken into a new party. Just how divided the Social Democrats are has been all too evident at Portsmouth.

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Computers in hospitals run risk of claims for damages

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Computers could soon join doctors as potential targets of damages claims by patients.

A test case is pending in the United States over a woman who died after a computer gave her an overdose of a pain reliever.

In Britain, doctors are increasingly diagnosing and administering drugs with the help of computers.

The implications of that will be debated at the conference next month of the International Bar Association in London, which will be attended by more than 1,500 lawyers from throughout the world.

The case of the woman who died will be presented by an American lawyer, Mr. Vibert Kesler, of Salt Lake City, who chairs the IBA's computers committee.

The woman, Julie Engle, was his secretary. She went into hospital for routine surgery which was performed without complication. Afterwards, with her consent, the doctor had her pain reliever administered by a computerized dispensing machine which was new to the American market in early 1986.

The machine was certified safe and had to be checked by two qualified personnel before placing the drug in the machine.

The machine enables pain to be controlled by the patient who presses a button when relief is needed. In that way, doctors say, much less of the drug is needed and pain is more accurately controlled than under conventional prescribing methods.

Another fail-safe is that the machine should not allow the patient to receive the drug more often than prescribed within a set period of time, even by repeatedly pressing the button.

After her operation, Miss Engle was moved to a room with a primed dispensing machine and was found 28 minutes later in a coma. Five days later, she was declared

brain dead. More than 500 milligrams of a pain relieving drug had been pumped into her body.

Mr. Kesler says the case raises a number of legal issues. The hospital claims the machine malfunctioned; the manufacturer contends that hospital staff must have used or serviced it incorrectly.

A court must assign blame for the death, Mr. Kesler says. "Was it the mini-computer which made the machine malfunction? Was it the software? Did the nurses program the software incorrectly?"

"Ultimately, who is liable to pay the husband and children for the loss of their wife and mother?"

In this country computers are being increasingly used in hospitals. Some have voice synthesizers to ask patients if they are feeling pain.

Dr. Kevin Johnston, anaesthetics lecturer at the University Hospital of Wales, said: "Every surgical patient should have one of these machines. It guarantees that people are pain-free and ensures they end up with far less of the drug than under normal methods."

Many big hospitals have these machines but they are expensive and tend to be used only after painful surgery, such as spinal or vascular.

Legal experts are wary about the possible legal ramifications of the use of computers in medicine.

However Mr. Christopher Millard, of Clifford Chance, said the Consumer Protection Act, 1987, could pave the way for injured patients to sue more people, including the manufacturers, wholesalers or even the importers of a product. He thought it unlikely that the English courts would follow the American pattern of massive damages awards, but manufacturers and others who might be liable would be well advised to review their insurance policies on product liability risks.



The entrance to Curraghinallt gold mine, near Gortin, Northern Ireland, where developers hope to extract ore worth £72 million (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

Work starts to extract £72m from gold mine

By Richard Ford

For generations, pan handlers and prospectors have been lured to the streams tumbling down the Sperrin Mountains in the hope of finding gold in Northern Ireland.

Few found little more than small amounts of alluvial gold. Even fewer believed that deep beneath the hills of Co Tyrone might lie one of the largest deposits of precious ore in Western Europe.

But a Dublin-based exploration company claims to have proved the sceptics wrong and estimates there may be reserves of 300,000 ounces, worth £72 million, at Curraghinallt gold mine near the small village of Gortin.

The company, Ennax International, has launched the second phase of its operations at the site, boring a 9ft-diameter shaft 1,300ft into the mountain to a depth of 120ft.

The tunnel will explore the width and continuity of gold-bearing veins. During the last four years, trenching and the drilling of 63 holes to a depth of 550ft has exposed high-

grade gold in approximately one million tons of rock.

Once the second stage of the operation is complete, Ennax hopes production can begin next year at a rate of 30,000 ounces a year. Over a decade, the firm believes this will create 80 jobs directly and a further 320 indirectly.

Fresh discoveries of gold have been found nearby in other blocks and drilling is expected to begin within three months.

The company has decided to use mechanical rock-breaking equipment rather than blasting techniques because of restrictions on blasting in the province. This, too, will add to operating costs.

There is little sign of a gold rush to the village. It is taking the prospect of a commercial mine with equanimity.

The only real change was spotted by a member of the exploration team. He reported that the local butcher had started stocking bigger steaks to satisfy the miners' appetites.

Part-time employment: 2

Unions tap 'casual' reserve

Trade union leaders, who have watched an overall decline in membership during the past few years, identify Britain's five million part-time workers as a vast potential recruiting ground.

The industries that employ them, such as the retail trade, are traditionally those where the influence of unions is weak - and part-timers are generally regarded by union leaders as an exploited workforce needing union protection.

The Trades Union Conference conference in Blackpool next week will discuss protection and ways of drawing part-timers into the unions' ranks.

Two large unions with a high proportion of part-time workers, the General and Municipal (GMB) and the public employees' (Nupel), have already published guidelines for protecting part-timers' rights.

The GMB report says that 20 per cent of workplaces exclude part-timers from sick

In the second part of our look at part-time employment in Britain, John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent, investigates the widely differing attitudes to part-time working from the viewpoint of both the employers and trade unions. While the employers argue that they are providing necessary employment, union leaders say many part-time workers are being exploited.

pay or pension schemes and 10 per cent of workplaces surveyed unilaterally cut hours of part-timers to save money.

The report said that at one London security firm, part-timers worked more than the contracted number of hours but were not paid overtime.

At another security firm in West Bromwich, part-timers were told their hours would be cut when they asked about becoming full-time employees.

The aspects of part-time employment to which the unions object are those which appeal most to employers.

According to a report by Income Data Services, em-

ployers can avoid paying National Insurance, overtime money, shift premiums and pension contributions.

Part-timers give them greater flexibility to cover variation in demand, make recruitment easier and improve productivity.

More efficient use of machinery is also possible by timing shifts to eliminate breaks, and redundancy laws are less restrictive when staff work fewer than 16 hours a week.

Disadvantages include higher training and administration costs, absenteeism and a lack of continuity.

Concluded.

'Fair deal' sought for women workers

By Our Employment Affairs Correspondent

The National Union of Public Employees, 40 per cent of whose members are part-time workers, says Britain's growing army of part-timers, mostly women, are the worst paid and worst treated in Europe.

The union has published a 10-point charter for a fair deal for part-timers.

Using 1984 figures, the union shows that 20 per cent of Britain's workforce are part-timers, compared with 8.9 per cent in France, 8.8 per cent in West Germany, 6.8 per cent in the Republic of Ireland and 7 per cent in Italy.

The report catalogues discrimination the union says is suffered by part-timers in terms of pay, status, conditions, security, rights and opportunities at work as well as benefit entitlement.

The union says that in the health service and local government, pay for all groups of women part-time workers, except nurses, works out at a lower rate per hour than that of their full-time equivalents.

Removing the barriers for part-timers to join occupational sick pay and pension schemes is the first thing employers must do, the union says.

Mr Rodney Bickerstaffe, the union's general secretary, said the role of part-time workers at the workplace and beyond was being relegated to second division status.

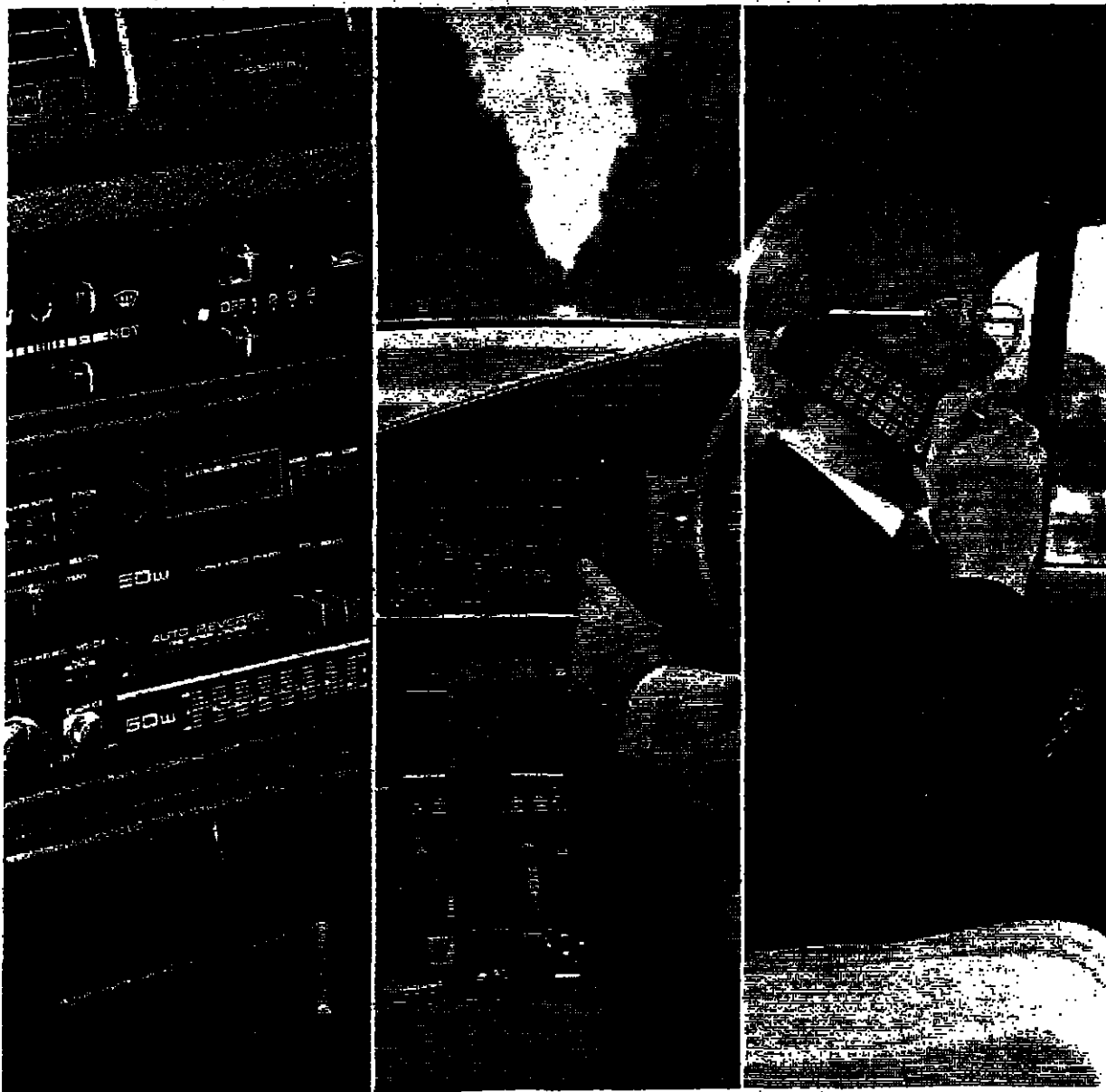
Company managers have been accused of failing to adapt to the changing pattern in Britain's workforce with its growing numbers of part-time workers.

Managers have been warned that if they do not get to grips with the changing work patterns they will fail to get the best out of the "flexi-workers" and may well run into trouble with the unions.

The warning comes from Miss Sheila Rothwell, director of the Centre for Employment Studies at the Henley Management College, in this month's issue of *Personnel Management* magazine.

A Fair Deal for Part-Time Workers (Nupel, Civic House, 20 Grand Depot Road, Woolwich, London SE18 6SF; £2 to non-members).

Automobiles should be more than safe, comfortable machines. They should also be able to communicate with the world around them.



Hitachi's wide-ranging automotive technologies include car audio, the Satellite Drive Information System featured on Nissan's CUE-X concept car, a car telephone, and a microcomputer engine control system.

Recent advances in car electronics technology have been remarkable. They've not only improved basic functions such as engine control, they're now being seen in man-machine interfaces providing more comfort and operating ease, and even in communications with the surrounding world. Down the road there are things even more exciting.

Hitachi's scientists and engineers are at work on a Multi Information System using a colour thin filter transistor LCD to display operating information, road maps and a navigational system using these maps. With this system a driver could obtain a variety of driving information simply by touching the display screen. Eventually, he'll be able to issue verbal commands to, for instance, regulate the temperature within his car. Hitachi electronics and semiconductor technology can also bring free communication with the outside and determine a car's exact location through use of Global Positioning System satellites.

Hitachi have also developed a highly acclaimed hot wire air flow sensor used in engine management. It helps achieve the diametrically opposed goals of maximum power and fuel economy. And we've created many other superior products for driving control, suspension control, air-conditioning and audio.

We link technology to human needs; and believe that our special knowledge will create new, highly sophisticated functions that are also easy to operate. Our goal in automotive electronics - and medicine, energy and consumer electronics as well - is to create and put into practice innovations that will improve the quality of life the world around.



HITACHI

Hitachi, Ltd. Tokyo, Japan

WORLD SUMMARY

Guards block out Vanunu message

Jerusalem — Mr Mordechai Vanunu, accused of betraying Israel's nuclear secrets, was engaged in a brief scuffle with his guards as he was led from a police van into the district court here yesterday morning (David Bernstein writes).

The former nuclear technician, in court for the second day since his trial began in camera on Sunday, attempted to shout something to reporters but was immediately muffled by his guards while sirens were sounded to drown out any words. Police have been taking elaborate precautions to prevent any recurrence of an incident eight months ago when Mr Vanunu wrote on the palm of his hand, for reporters to see, that he had been kidnapped in Rome last September before being spirited to Israel.

The court yesterday continued to hear the testimony of prosecution witnesses. Mr Vanunu is charged with treason and aggravated espionage, offences which carry sentences of up to life imprisonment.

Assurance Jakarta to islands space bid

The Foreign Office will today assure representatives of the Turks and Caicos Islands that it will restore ministerial government soon (Andrew McEwen writes).

Britain suspended the colony's system of government 13 months ago after a Commission of Inquiry which found three ministers guilty of malpractice. Since then the 30 islands have been administered by the Governor and an appointed Advisory Executive Council. Some islanders believe this amounts to direct rule, but Britain has always said that it was temporary.

Elba rebels free 16

Porto Azzuro (AFP) — Six armed prisoners on the Italian island of Elba who have been holding 28 hostages in the prison infirmary since last Tuesday freed 16 warders yesterday, the Mayor of Porto Azzuro, Signor Maurizio Papi, said.

Negotiators trying to secure the release of the hostages refused to confirm the report, but they appeared increasingly optimistic.

On Sunday the Government refused to provide the rebels with a helicopter as they had demanded, but said it would consider concessions over prison conditions if they released the hostages, who include the prison governor. A lawyer said the concessions would mean that if the convicts surrendered they would suffer no reprisals.

Spanish in Deadly exercise protest

Madrid — Five ships of the Spanish Navy, consisting of three frigates, two destroyers and one submarine, sailed yesterday from Las Palmas, Canary Islands, to join Nato's "ocean safari" exercises (Richard Webb writes). This is the first time the Madrid Government has agreed to participate in these exercises while refusing to let its units come under an integrated Nato command.

Protesting anti-Nato groups pointed out that a majority of the islands' inhabitants voted "no" in last year's referendum over staying in Nato.

Student defiance

Sydney — The state Government of Queensland announced yesterday that it would prosecute the owners and operators of condom-vending machines (Stephen Taylor writes). Mr Mike Ahern, the Health Minister, failed at a stormy Cabinet meeting to win approval for the machines to remain on university campuses.

The machines have been installed in toilets on at least two campuses in defiance of existing legislation. Student leaders have rejected warnings to remove them on the grounds that they are essential to counter the danger of Aids.

Official show of apathy on British 'KGB agent'

By Tony Dawe

The Briton alleged to have been at the centre of a KGB spy ring in Bangkok, Mr Higginson, was said to have worked as a security official at a UK Government establishment in West Germany.

Mr Higginson was visited by British consular officials after his arrest and thorough checks into his background were instigated in Britain. Officials here could find no record that Mr Higginson, who comes from Plymouth, worked for the Government or served as a regular soldier. But he had been a member of the Territorial Army.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said yesterday: "He seemed to have a love-hate relationship with the TA. Between June 1971 and July 1981, he left it and then rejoined on three separate occasions. That is most unusual."

Peking cracks down on rampant profiteering

From Robert Grieser Peking

China's State Council, in a circular issued on August 19 but made public only this week, has ordered a crackdown on rampant, nationwide profiteering in consumer goods.

The document requires people's government at all levels to make sure that no businesses run by individuals are operating without a licence, and demands the registration of lorry-drivers who haul goods between rural and urban areas.

The circular states: "At present, many unlicensed vendors and individual business people do not abide by state regulations." Rather they "illegally buy up goods in demand, drive up prices and then resell the goods." It adds that some state-owned and collective enterprises also charge high prices for goods without authorization.

Such illegal activities disrupt market order and price stability, "infringe on the interests of the state and consumer and have aroused complaints from the masses," the circular states.

Some Western economists contend that China will not be able to solve its increasingly serious inflation problem — currently estimated at 18 per cent — until the wages of urban workers are adjusted

upwards to achieve a rough parity with the rapidly rising prices of consumer goods and many food items. Last week Mr Yuan Mu, a State Council spokesman, admitted that inflation this year has topped more than 9 per cent in China's biggest cities. The figure last year was 6 per cent.

He cited insufficient grain production last year, abnormal weather conditions that adversely affected vegetable production, price increases for raw materials, and a lack of co-ordination in reform and management measures as contributing to the higher inflation rate.

Chinese officials have moved quickly to implement the State Council's circular. In a city-wide raid launched in Peking last Tuesday night, 10,000 policemen, commercial inspectors and civilian public-security employees detained more than 8,000 people engaged in illegal businesses.

The police sweep on more than 17,000 private restaurants, hotels and hairdressers, as well as on 12,000 dwellings with a total of 65,000 lodgers resulted in the arrest of 48 people, the fining of 446 more and the institution of other disciplinary action against 157, according to the Peking Daily newspaper. Many of the lodgers were reportedly reaping huge profits by reselling scrap metal, grain, petrol and other scarce goods at exorbitant prices.

Black miners gain strength in 'rehearsal' strike

From Nicholas Beeson Johannesburg

The strike in South Africa's gold and coal mines which has just ended marks only the first round in a struggle between the white mine owners and black workers for dominance over South Africa's extensive mineral wealth.

When the strike began, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, the leader of the National Union of Mineworkers, predicted that his 340,000 members, in a workforce of 500,000, would stay out until their demand for a 30 per cent wage increase was met. That they have returned for less might thus be seen as defeat.

Mr Ramaphosa's resolve and that of his members was rapidly eroded when employers began dismissing workers and the casualty toll rose to nine men dead and as many as 300 injured. Mr Ramaphosa finally settled for improved fringe benefits and the 23 per cent increase offered.

But he refused to concede that the outcome was a defeat, ominously describing this year's strike as a

"dress rehearsal" for wage claims in 1988. The remark is not seen by the mining houses as an idle threat, but as a very real warning from a man who has emerged as a sophisticated

Johannesburg — Two black political activists are due to be hanged today at Pretoria's central prison unless President Botha heads an international appeal for clemency (Ray Kennedy writes from Johannesburg). The condemned men, Moses Jantjies and Wellington Melles, were convicted of murdering a black town councillor at Uitenhage, in the eastern Cape.

And able labour organizer who, with limited resources, can marshal hundreds of thousands of blacks against some of the most powerful companies in the world.

An indication of the new respect the management has for the union came from Mr Naas Steenkamp, the president of the Chamber of Mines, who said: "The employer has learnt that the union has muscle, organizational capacity, determination and

skill: the union has learnt that the employer can be flexible but can also set the limits and stick to them."

But Mr Ramaphosa has shown he is in no mood for learning and can barely conceal his satisfaction that the employers were taken by surprise by the scale and duration of the stoppage, which they initially believed would last only days.

He is also confident that his show of strength will have persuaded more black miners to join the union and give him added bargaining power for next year's wage claims. Although most of his membership is drawn from the impoverished and poorly educated rural communities in the black townships and neighbouring black states, there is widespread grassroots support for improved pay. Before tax and living deductions, black gold miners earn £245 a month and their counterparts in the collieries £255.

It is difficult to establish exactly how many millions of pounds the mine owners have lost as a result of the dispute, but it is certain that the blow will lead to some soul searching

within the industry over its policy towards trade unions. Ironically, because it has encouraged the unionization of its mines and the policy of collective bargaining, it is South Africa's most progressive and wealthiest mining house, the Anglo American Corporation, which has come off worst.

During the dispute, the country's largest legal strike, the Government made a point of not intervening publicly, and senior National Party members have privately relished Anglo's quandary, which, in the eyes of many white South Africans, has left the company's reformist policies in tatters.

But the Government is also concerned about the long-term implications of the mining dispute, which coincided with several other nationwide strikes by, among others, postal and chemical workers. Although the Government imposed a state of emergency, the detention of militant black leaders and the suppression of the media have unquestionably silenced political opposition to Pretoria for the time

being, anti-government activists are increasingly making use of the legalized trade union movement to further their aims.

Already this year more than 5.5 million working days have been lost in South Africa through strike action, compared with 1.3 million for the whole of 1986.

By South African standards, the Government's actions against the unions have been restrained, being limited to cutting off foreign funds and using the police and security forces to break up "illegal gatherings". But the bombing of Cosatu's offices in Johannesburg earlier this year and in Cape Town last weekend, reflect the belief of the right wing in South Africa that the black unions must be brought under control.

With the mining strike over, both the Government and the mining houses have less than a year to formulate a new strategy to deal with the black unions, which will return to the bargaining table in 1988, better organized and more confident than they have ever been.

The Gulf War

Emirates offer port facilities but no bases to Royal Navy

From Robert Fisk, Dubai

Britain's four mine-sweepers, en route to the Gulf, have been given provisional approval to use ports in the United Arab Emirates for maintenance and supplies following a personal letter to Mrs Thatcher from the ruler of the Gulf sheikhdom of Abu Dhabi.

The need for Gulf harbours for the small British Hunt class vessels — which usually stay at sea for only 10 days at a time — had been of paramount concern to the British Government, which was well aware of how lamentably the Americans had failed to secure shore facilities for their own mine-sweeping helicopters.

The seven emirates, which have traditional ties of friendship with Britain, are not offering military bases to the Royal Navy. According to diplomats here, they have provisionally promised to allow the British ships to enter Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Sharjah and Fujairah ports for stores, re-fuelling, bunkering and shore leave for the crews.

Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al Nahayan, the ruler of Abu Dhabi, who is also the Emir of the United Arab Emirates, wrote to Mrs Thatcher several days ago to say that he would, in principle, give the Royal Navy's mine-sweepers all

reasonable assistance in port. It is possible that the RAF — which at present quietly maintains staging flights through Dubai — will be committed to bring in stores for the four vessels.

By way of return, it is likely that the British ships will start work in the Gulf region hunting for mines in the great anchorages off Fujairah and Khor Fakkan. Dozens of tankers left the sea lanes off the two emirates' ports after mines there had damaged an oil tanker and sunk a supply ship with the loss of six lives. Fujairah is now believed to be suffering considerable financial losses as a result.

Oman's assistance to Britain's mine-sweepers is taken for granted, but the Emirates' enthusiasm for such a project appears to have been prompted partly by concern at Iran's continuing rhetoric against Arab Gulf states, and partly by the need to secure the help of a competent mine-sweeping navy in its waters, which is neither that of a Gulf belligerent, nor American.

The Emirates turned down an Iranian mine-clearance offer earlier this month on the ground that Iran was not a neutral, but the sheikhdoms have been talking to the Belgians about possible Bel-

gian Navy mine-sweeping assistance.

WASHINGTON: The US has called the timing of the renewed Iraqi attacks on Iranian installations deplorable. But a senior Administration official said at the weekend that they were "understandable" in terms of Iraqi interests (Michael Binyon writes).

Mr Michael Armacost, the Under-Secretary of State, appeared on television to be sending mixed signals, supporting Iraq while condemning its actions.

Administration sources suggest that while the US does not condone a resumption of Iraqi attacks, it believes these may increase the pressure on Iran to accept a ceasefire.

Mr Armacost said that the resumption of Iraqi attacks lent urgency to a second resolution by the United Nations Security Council, which would impose mandatory sanctions on any country not accepting the earlier ceasefire resolution.

Iraq has already expressed its readiness to accept the first resolution.

Senator Robert Dole, the Republican minority leader, said he understood that the US was talking to the Iraqis, trying to get them to back off.

Iraqi attack sinks the West's hopes on UN arms embargo

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Whitehall and Washington will go back to the drawing board today to salvage what they can from the wreckage of a diplomatic strategy shattered by Iraq's bombs.

There was anger and disappointment yesterday when Iraq again attacked shipping, spurning both discreet advice from the US State Department and Sir Geoffrey Howe's public expression of dismay.

Mr Abdul Muhsin Muhammad Said, Iraq's Chargé d'Affaires, was telephoned by a government official yesterday and called to the Foreign Office this morning. But while he will be shown Britain's annoyance, the diplomatic damage has already been done.

At the United Nations in New York today, Britain and the United States are expected to resume efforts to obtain a United Nations Security Council arms embargo. But there is now far greater scepticism about the chances.

Iraq's follow-up attacks put paid to the hopes in Washington, Whitehall and Paris that the Security Council might be persuaded to make the embargo apply to Iran alone. If there is to be an



Dr Martens: Not opposed to sending minesweepers.

embargo at all, it will almost certainly be "even-handed".

Officially, that has been the policy all along; in reality all three countries wanted to find a diplomatic way of assisting Iraq. Now Baghdad has undermined their case.

The Labour Party has backed the policy of refusing to sell arms to either side, but wants it made tighter. Mr George Robertson, the deputy foreign affairs spokesman, wrote to the Foreign Secretary yesterday pointing out loopholes in the policy.

One of the inconsistencies, he said, was demonstrated last

week when a Clyde-built Iranian naval landing ship tested the nerves of the US task force in the Gulf by sailing up to a tanker convoy it was escorting.

He said that Britain sold such vessels to the Iranian Navy in 1983. At the time, the Government said that Iran had given assurances that the vessels would not be used in the Gulf War. The Gulf incident had shown that allowing Iran to buy the ships "crucially undermined" the British arms embargo, he said.

Meanwhile, Britain's efforts to persuade European Nato allies to join the effort to keep the Gulf sea lanes open took a further step forward.

Dr Wilfried Martens, the Belgian Prime Minister, said in Brussels that he was not against sending Belgian mine-sweepers to the Gulf. He added the expected proviso that the decision should be taken in the context of the Western European Union, the Belgian daily *La Libre Belgique* reported.

This followed last week's decision by the Italian Cabinet that it would be willing in principle to send mine-sweepers.

Lavi workers take to streets



Angry aircraft industry workers clashing with police in demonstrations against the Israeli Cabinet's decision to cancel the Lavi fighter project. Government ministers from the right-of-centre Likud Party were yesterday looking into the possibility of reversing Sunday's Cabinet decision (David Bernstein reports from Jerusalem).

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud leader, met representatives of the workers at noon yesterday and managed to get them to call off their protest for the time being — apparently hoping that the decision to scrap the plane might yet be reversed.

The workers, of whom some 2,500 face redundancy, had protested earlier in Tel Aviv outside the headquarters of the Histadrut (General Federation of Labour) and the Labour Party, whose ministers had come out against the continuation of the Lavi project. They also forced the closure of the main

highway between the city and Jerusalem.

Mr Moshe Arens, the Likud Minister without Portfolio who had announced his intention to quit immediately after Sunday's decision, was yesterday delaying the formal submission of his resignation as there was a possibility that the Cabinet might vote again.

Meanwhile, the three non-Likud ministers who voted against the Lavi on Sunday — Mr Moshe Nissim, the Likud Finance Minister; Mr Zevulun Hammer, the National Religious Party Religious Affairs Minister; and Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz, the ultra-Orthodox Shas Party Minister without Portfolio — are expected to come under strong pressure in the days ahead to come out in support of the Lavi, and thus secure a majority for the continuation of the project.

If a second vote in Cabinet does not save the Lavi, some Likud ministers have raised the possibility of calling an early election.

Superpower arms talks

Top Kremlin aide says Kohl offer will not help agreement

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Mr Viktor Karpov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's disarmament section, claimed last night that Chancellor Kohl's recent initiative on the future of West Germany's 72 Pershing IA missiles had not brought the Geneva arms talks "closer to an agreement on the global elimination of medium and shorter range missiles".

Mr Karpov's pessimistic remarks ran counter to the recent guarded optimism of other Soviet officials and senior American officials involved in the negotiations. Diplomats here said his views appeared designed to increase the pressure on Washington to declare its willingness to scrap all the warheads with which the 72 ageing rockets are armed.

Mr Karpov told Tass: "The essence of the problem is: will the American warheads to the shorter-range missiles be covered by the Soviet-American agreement on eliminating the two types of arms — medium and shorter-range missiles — on a global basis? The Chancellor's statement does not help resolve that problem."

Claiming that Herr Kohl's statement was "a step in the right direction", Mr Karpov called on him to amplify it so as to accelerate an agreement. He claimed that the Chancellor's remarks at present contained several provisions "which pile up a whole num-

ber of artificial obstacles leading away from the essence of the problem".

Mr Karpov, formerly the chief Soviet negotiator in Geneva, added: "The Federal Republic of Germany could make a practical contribution to resolving the issue of eliminating Soviet and American shorter-range missiles if that country's leadership came up with an unequivocal statement that it is neither going to preserve its Pershing IA missiles, nor object to the clear indication in the Soviet-American treaty of US readiness to eliminate all warheads to the shorter-range missiles."

BONN: A rift between Chancellor Kohl and his right-wing Bavarian partner, Herr Franz Josef Strauss, over Herr Kohl's offer deepened yesterday when Herr Strauss decided to boycott a special meeting of the centre-right coalition leaders in Bonn today to discuss the issue (John England writes).

The meeting was called by Herr Kohl to agree the coalition's line on the Pershings ahead of tomorrow's special summer-recess sitting of Parliament called on the issue by the opposition Social Democratic Party. But Herr Strauss and his Christian Social Union are still sulking because Herr Kohl did not consult them before making his surprise offer last week.

Herr Strauss was against Bonn accepting the double-zero option in the US-Soviet disarmament negotiations in Geneva and is equally opposed to Herr Kohl "giving away" the Pershings. Now he is making the most of the Chancellor's lack of contact with him on Bonn's second step toward clearing the way for a superpower accord on medium and shorter-range nuclear weapons.

Herr Strauss's decision not to attend was announced in a 10-point statement issued by his party's executive after a special meeting in Munich which complained that the Chancellor's lack of consultation with him was a "snubbing and repudiation" of one of the essential partners in the coalition and the Government.



Mr Karpov: Countering the recent guarded optimism.

Paralysed politician seeks election

Bonn — West Germany's Greens Party is fielding a candidate for a state election in Schleswig-Holstein later this month to show that it cares not only about the environment but also about the country's severely handicapped (John England writes).

He is Herr Joachim Haacks, aged 32, who has been spastic and paralysed from birth. He has no control over his limbs, can do nothing without help, and although he can speak he is very difficult to understand.

He is attended by two helpers, one of whom is

constantly by his side, who must also act as "interpreters" for him. But if, as is thought likely, the Greens are voted into the state Parliament in Kje for the first time on September 13, Herr Haacks will take his place there in his wheelchair to make West German parliamentary history.

In the early post-war years, there were many politicians at federal, state and local level who had been wounded at the front and hobbled into parliaments and town councils on crutches. There have also been other MPs who were party

paralysed by childhood polio. Herr Haacks, however, would be the first spastic MP in the country. He describes his candidacy as an "experiment", but insists that it is not a "sick joke".

"My standing for Parliament expresses the strengthened self-assurance of the handicapped who now also want to have a say in politics," he says. "Too much is continually decided for us, and not with us. Because we are under-represented in this society we are forced to grasp the problems ourselves."

Aquino accused of inviting coup attempt

From Michael Hamlyn
Manila

Senator Juan Ponce Enrile, the former Defence Minister of the Philippines, yesterday publicly blamed the Government of President Aquino for the "political instability" of the nation.

The opposition politician thus virtually accused her of bringing last week's bloody coup attempt on herself.

But there were plenty of voices in the Senate who were prepared to swear yesterday that the defeat of the plotters had strengthened the Government — by proving that Mrs Aquino can act firmly and decisively, if she wishes, and has been able to recruit public opinion again to her support.

Under President Marcos, Mr Enrile was Defence Minister for 10 years — but was largely responsible for Mrs Aquino's accession to power when he and General Fidel Ramos, the Army Chief of Staff, crossed to her side. Mr Enrile's defence portfolio was removed by her after he was implicated in an earlier coup attempt. Last week's coup was led by Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, who was formerly his security chief.

Mr Enrile told a Rotary Club meeting in a Manila hotel yesterday that, though the smoke of battle had lifted, the grave crisis continued. He said: "Three words characterize this state of our national affairs today — gloom, despair and drift." He blamed the country's troubles on "a fundamental inability of this Government to arrest the gloom and drift of this nation, its lack of statecraft and its unwillingness to carve a sound political direction".

There are many in the Philippines who would agree with Mr Enrile, and point to a number of specific failings of the Aquino administration.

On the key issue of agrarian reform, for example, the President failed to act until she was jolted by the police killing of 19 protesting farmers outside her palace in January. Even now, she has allowed the issue to become bogged down in what seems like an interminable quarrelsome parliamentary session.

Mrs Aquino needlessly sparked off an apparently gratuitous row in Manila over the repudiation of the crush-



Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan giving orders to rebel troops at Camp Aguinaldo, the general headquarters of the armed forces in Manila, at the height of last week's failed coup attempt. The photograph was taken by an amateur. The colonel is still being hunted by loyal Government troops.

ing weight of debt repayments by complaining publicly about the country's treatment at the hands of foreign banks. The wave of left-wing strikes which paralysed much of the nation's business just before the attempted coup could have been avoided, it is suggested, by more skilled handling on the President's part, and a less clumsy approach to introducing oil price increases.

At the same time, the military has been upset by what it sees as a soft line towards the communist rebels — in particular a ceasefire, an amnesty and the freeing of political prisoners — combined with a hard line towards human rights abuses.

In the Senate yesterday, Senator Ernesto Herrera made

a forceful plea for consideration of the Army's case for better treatment, and urged a comprehensive congressional inquiry into how military morale and equipment could be improved. Earlier, Mr Salvador Laurel, the Vice-President, made a similar plea, urging Mrs Aquino to establish a commission to look into the mutineers' grievances.

Despite all this, many observers point out that the President now remains very much in command. Her dramatic appearances on television during the mutiny did much to swing popular support behind her, and the crowds turned out in the streets to cheer on the loyalist forces outside Camp Aguinaldo as they moved to crush the plotters.

The armed forces' victory strengthened the position of those who believe in civilian democratic control.

Even Mrs Aquino's weakness and lack of leadership is seen by some as a deliberate effort to distance herself from the dictatorship of Mr Marcos and a welcome change.

Senator Enrile: Blamed Mrs Aquino for national unrest.

Loyal troops hunt 'Gringo'

From Our Own Correspondent, Manila

The most wanted man in the Philippines, the glamorous Colonel Gregorio Honasan, known as "Gringo", was yesterday still avoiding capture somewhere in the lush mountainous countryside.

Colonel Honasan led the coup attempt which last Friday failed to topple the Government of President Aquino, and he is now on the run, with the loyalist armed forces reported to have been ordered to shoot him on sight.

Yesterday it was reported that another 500 of his renegade followers — in four Scorpion tanks, two armoured personnel carriers and six Jeeps — who were supposed to have linked up with his attack force, had been captured in central Luzon, the main island in the Philippines.

Early yesterday the loyalist forces intensified their efforts to find the remaining rebels, many of whom were still following the orders from rebel officers to march on Manila. Reconnaissance aircraft were being used to search for mutineers still at large.

The men who have been captured are being held in two tank-laying ships which are anchored in Manila Bay and

guarded by fast patrol boats against possible rescue attempts. Conditions on board are reported to be unpleasant. Sanitary facilities are limited and food supplies have been far from plentiful.

In view of Mrs Aquino's hard line against the rebels during the mutiny, there are wide expectations that punishments will be severe. Yesterday a local newspaper carried a cartoon of a gang of mutineers facing a hangman's rope and saying: "But we only expected 30 push-ups."

However, because of the tender feelings of the military establishment towards their own people, and because of a large amount of sympathy for the aims of the rebellion, it is not for its methods, it was forecast by observers yesterday that the punishment would not necessarily be draconian.

The most likely event is that they will be formed into one or more combat units and sent off to fight communist rebels on some distant island.

One symptom of how the military establishment feels came yesterday from the Philippine Military Academy in Baguio, 130 miles north of

here. There the cream of military recruits, trained to provide the officer corps of the future, are on hunger strike to protest at the way the mutineers are being treated.

Even a dramatic flight to Baguio by the deputy Chief of Staff of the Army, Major-General Eduardo Ermita, failed to persuade the cadets to give up their protest.

A cadet, after explaining the motivation of the hunger strikers, told a local newspaper that when they were ordered to the canteen, they simply looked at the food and at a signal drank their juice or water, got up and left. "That way we are not disobeying orders," he said.

Meanwhile, the leaders of the left-wing insurgency have been urged by the communist-led National Democratic Front to step up their operations. An official said that the mutiny "indicated a power struggle within the Government" and was "an excellent situation to advance its revolutionary struggle".

The front claimed that the uprising was "a panic reaction to the rapidly growing success of the revolutionary forces in cities and countryside".

Walesa rejects pressure for violent action

Gdansk (AFP) — Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of the banned Solidarity union, has rejected pressure from younger members of the Polish opposition movement to take a more radical and even violent stand against the Government.

In an interview to mark the seventh anniversary of the Gdansk accords that gave his union a brief taste of legality, Mr Walesa called for a revolution by evolution and said that his movement would avoid, at any price, attempts to achieve their aims through violence.

He reinforced the call in a meeting after Mass on Sunday at the St. Brigitte parish church, near the Lenin shipyards where he works. "No stones and no clubs, we must win with wisdom," he said to Solidarity followers.

Meanwhile, 10 members of Solidarity were arrested yesterday in Wroclaw during a meeting to mark the anniversary of the Gdansk accords.

Among those detained by police were Mr Jozef Pinior, Mr Czeslaw Borowczyk and Mr Jan Wynn, who are former members of the Solidarity leadership for the Wroclaw region.

Although Mr Walesa has remained an influential figure in Solidarity, many younger members have recently expressed impatience with the leadership's pacifist stand and have advocated a more radical

approach, and even violence. But Mr Walesa said he did not want a repeat of armed revolutions in regions such as Latin America. The revolutionaries who have taken power in that part of the world are worse than their predecessors, he said.

"We are satisfied with what we are doing," Mr Walesa said. "We are well on the way to this political revolution, thanks to the numerous officials who, along with the workers, take part — often in an underground capacity — in the organization's activities."

But Mr Walesa also expressed renewed concern at the slow rate at which the Government has agreed to apply reforms demanded by his banned organization.

● PRAGUE: Fifth, violence, sexual abuse and breaches of human rights prevail in Czechoslovakia's overcrowded jails and suicides are commonplace, according to a report issued at the weekend by the dissident Charter 77 human rights group.

The report, drawn up by human rights activists jailed in the 10 years since the movement was founded, says there are more than 45,000 prisoners in Czechoslovakia's jails, including nearly 5,000 political detainees, and that the ratio of four prisoners for every 1,000 of the population aged more than 15 is among the highest in the world.

Cult of daredevil pilot Young Finns make Rust their hero

From A Special Correspondent, Helsinki

As preparations are finalized for tomorrow's trial in Moscow of Herr Mathias Rust, provocatively designed T-shirts commemorating the exploits of the daredevil aviator have become his sellers in the Finnish capital, his last taking-off point before touching down on the fringes of Moscow's Red Square.

The popularity of the blatantly anti-Soviet designs — prominently displayed in the bustling, open-air harbour market, a spot much favoured by the steady stream of Russian visitors — is one of the more curious manifestations of the unique and sensitive Finno-Soviet relationship.

"For us, he is a real hero, just as I suppose he is for young people in the rest of Europe," explained one flax-haired teenager in the process of purchasing a red-and-white T-shirt dedicated to Herr Rust's solo flight in May.

Next year, amid what is expected to prove a loud official fanfare from Moscow and a more muted one from Helsinki, the two countries will mark the 40th anniversary of the signing of their controversial Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation. There will also be an election for the key position of Finnish President, skillfully held since 1982 by Dr Mauno Koivisto, a Social Democrat.

Finland is the only part of the former Tsarist empire now flourishing as a democracy, and the proud possessor of one of the world's most dynamic economies. With its homogeneous population of 4.9 million, it knows more than most about the subtleties of surviving in the shadow of an ideologically hostile superpower.

Since the early 1960s when a West German political scientist coined the term "Finlandization" to express the humiliating accommodation of one state to the interests of a powerful neighbour, the Finns have repeatedly protested that such a pejorative concept belied reality.

It is pointed out here that, other than in pure military terms, the relationship is much more than one way. The Russians now need Finland as much as the Finns have to listen to them, both as a source of expertise for their backward economy and a much-valued window on the West — some-

although fewer than 40,000 Finns are currently under arms, a reserve of 700,000 could swiftly be mobilized.

Most Western observers see manifestations such as the Rust T-shirts as a harmless way for youngsters to let off steam against a political and geographical reality which has helped, rather than hindered, Finland's remarkable post-war economic success story.

Some of the prosperity, which is to be found in abundance behind the austere sober facades of the shops and restaurants, has come from the skill with which the ever-resourceful Finns have built up a thriving service and leisure industry.

Despite the return to power in Finland during April of the conservative National Coalition Party after a 21-year spell in opposition, the complex, knife-edge relationship along 762 strategic miles of frontier appears likely to continue flourishing — to the mutual advantage of both governments.

Protesters demand flood aid

Dhaka (Reuters) — Hundreds of flood victims marched through Dhaka yesterday demanding food, clothes and medicine amid fears of famine in Bangladesh in the wake of floods that have killed more than 700 people.

Leading opposition groups yesterday spurned an invitation from President Ershad for talks on combating the floods. Officials say hundreds of people could die of disease or starvation.

Tourists flee
Munich (Reuters) — Police said 38 Polish and Czechoslovak tourists failed to return home from weekend bus trips to West Germany.

Muslim held
Cairo (Reuters) — Police have arrested a Muslim in connection with the attempt on the life of the former Interior Minister, Mr Nabawi Ismail.

53 victims
Madrid (Reuters) — Fifty-three people died in road crashes in Spain at the weekend. More than 550 people have died in traffic accidents in August.

Rights panel
Harare (Reuters) — African academics and human rights activists announced the formation of a watchdog body to monitor violations of basic freedoms on the continent.

Woman envoy
Moscow (Reuters) — The Soviet Union made a rare appointment of a woman as an ambassador, naming Miss Zoya Novozhilova as envoy to Switzerland.

Sniffing law
Singapore (Reuters) — Parliament here passed a law under which suspected glue-sniffers can be detained up to one year for rehabilitation.

Poll victory
Port Louis (AFP) — The governing Alliance coalition in Mauritius won Sunday's general election with a clear majority, getting 38 of the 70 seats to 22 for the Union of Opposition grouping.

Raid respite
London (Reuters) — Libya is halting bombing raids on Chad to mark the anniversary of Colonel Gaddafi's 1969 revolution, Tripoli Radio said.

Bus tragedy
Rio de Janeiro (Reuters) — Thirty-six people burnt to death when a bus and a car collided, plunged into a petrol station and burst into flames.

Greene trip sparks Philby speculation

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Mr Graham Greene, the British author, arrived in the Soviet Union last week for his third visit in less than 12 months, prompting diplomatic speculation that he might be planning further meetings with his old friend, the traitor, Mr Kim Philby, now aged 75.

British officials were infuriated when Mr Greene, a Companion of Honour, revealed in May that he held four separate meetings with Mr Philby when he went to Moscow last September as a guest of the influential Soviet Writers' Union.

Last Tuesday Mr Greene arrived on a flight from Paris and set off for a visit to the remote Siberian cities of Novosibirsk and Irkutsk. His schedule allows him three days in Moscow, when he is due to return to Paris en route to his home in Antibes.

A spokesman for the Writers' Union has confirmed to *The Times* that Mr Greene is again in the country on an official invitation, but would not comment on his movements.

Mr Greene is both an admirer of and an apologist

for Mr Philby, whom he first met when they both worked for British intelligence during the Second World War. He wrote an unashamedly flattering introduction to Mr Philby's autobiography, *My Silent War*, which appeared in 1969 and was alleged by British sources to contain much skilful disinformation.

A remark by Mr Philby in his own preface has sparked rumours that the renewed contact between the two old men may have a literary purpose. The British defector, who has not subsequently published another book, wrote then: "This short book is an introductory sketch of my experiences in the field of intelligence. More will follow in due course."

In recent years there has been much talk in Western diplomatic and literary circles of the possibility of Mr Philby providing a more definitive account of his treachery.

In February, Mr Greene returned to Moscow for the glittering "peace forum" hosted by Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, at the end of which he delivered a speech sympathetic to communism.

South Korean Constitution

Seoul parties agree on presidential elections

From David Watts, Seoul

In a solid indication of political progress in South Korea, ruling and opposition groups have agreed on a new draft constitution which provides for direct election of the president.

The draft, which was welcomed by opposition politicians yesterday, gives them most of what they have been seeking. It now goes to a special committee of the Na-

Under the draft the president will be directly-elected for a single five-year term of office. The ruling Democratic Justice Party had favoured a six-year single term while the Opposition proposed a four-year term with provision for re-election once.

The preamble of Asia's second new democratic constitution of the year speaks of ensuring the "security, liberty and happiness of ourselves and our descendants forever".

While opposition demands for a reference to the Kwangju uprising of 1980 have not been met, the new document speaks of the people's right to resist dictatorship, much like that of the Philippines.

The special committee missed its agreement deadline of August 20 and finished its drafting under pressure not only to keep the country's new political schedule but also to give cause for further unrest among students who will soon start returning to their campuses for the new term.

With some 700 labour disputes still under way around the country, conclusion of the agreement maintains political momentum.

'Love' spy is jailed in Bonn

From John England, Bonn

A former senior secretary in the President's Office in Bonn who became a Soviet spy through love was sentenced by a court in Düsseldorf yesterday to eight years in jail. The prosecutor had called for an 11-year sentence.

Frau Margret Höke, aged 51 and unmarried, was found guilty of spying for the Russians for more than 12 years after falling in love with her young spy-master, who went under the name "Franz Becker". She had passed more than 1,700 secrets to the KGB in that period.

The court was told that "Franz" had won her heart with flowers, dinners by candlelight and hints of marriage. When she fell for him, he turned her into a spy.

She was arrested in 1985 after Oleg Gordievsky, the KGB's senior man in London, defected and revealed details of KGB men in Europe which were passed to the West Germans. "Franz" escaped.

Because of the damaging Höke case, Bonn has launched a special campaign warning government secretaries to beware of communist lovers.

Finding Frau Höke guilty of high treason "in an especially serious case", the judge, Herr Klaus Wagner, said that she had been an important source of top-secret information for the KGB. He said her spy-master had been ordered to "turn" her in 1968 and had used her love for him cleverly and unscrupulously. She was indifferent to the consequences of her spying, he added, wanting only to satisfy "her Franz", who was the first man in her life.

Her espionage activities had considerably endangered the external security of the Federal Republic, he said, especially at a time when the Soviet Union was using all means to prevent the West



Frau Margret Höke leaving a court in Düsseldorf yesterday after being sentenced to eight years in prison for spying.

from re-arming (with medium-range missiles). She had passed documents to the Russians that could have been used by them as a "decisive lever" because of their knowledge of the West's weaknesses and intentions.

Frau Höke had access to top-secret military, diplomatic, counter-intelligence and secret-service papers. She had also typed the confidential minutes of talks between federal presidents and visiting heads of state and foreign ambassadors.

Herr Wagner said that, at first, Frau Höke had smuggled documents out of the Presidency hidden in a copy of the news magazine *Der Spiegel*. She was never checked and

Glasnost under fire after exposés of Stalin era

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

A remarkable letter that harrowingly details the suffering imposed on one innocent peasant family during the brutal Stalinist era has highlighted the fierce debate now taking place in the Soviet Union about how far the new policy of *glasnost* should proceed.

Published yesterday by the Moscow magazine *Ogonyok*, the letter from Mrs Nadezhda Fedchenko, a reader whose father died in one of Stalin's jails and whose aunt was tortured for refusing to fabricate political denunciations, challenged an earlier letter from a veteran Communist Party member, pensioner Mr Yakov Gerasymov, demanding that criticism of Stalin be muted.

Ogonyok said that Mrs Fedchenko had delivered the letter personally to its offices, along with a photograph of her father dead in jail surrounded by

members of the family who had gone to collect his body in July, 1932. Earlier, the family nearly starved when its house, horse and cow were seized and they had to live for a time in a stable.

The letter said: "In 1937, my mother's elder brother, who helped us, was arrested. He was rehabilitated posthumously, in 1957. Mother's sister was arrested too. She was sent to Solovki (in the north) to cut wood for 10 years. Miraculously, she stayed alive and came back in 1947. After returning, she told us how somebody tried to make her sign a protocol saying that two people she did not even know were enemies of the people. She refused to sign, and they threw her into a bare, stone cell. Seven days later when the door was opened, she fell down half-dead with her nose, ears and throat bleeding. She was rehabilitated only in 1957. She was told she was the only one who refused to sign that protocol."

The bold decision by the magazine, one of the leading exponents of *glasnost*, to publish the bitterly worded attack on the strong-arm tactics used under Stalin was seen as a direct challenge to Soviet conservatives. Last week, their ideological mentor, Mr Yegor Ligachev, the Kremlin number two, accused reformist intellectuals of trying to discredit the party by exaggerating Stalinist repression.

Mr Ligachev's remarks to a meeting of Soviet teachers followed closely on an emotionally-charged conservative commentary in *Pravda*, the official party daily, which accused some Soviet publications (of which *Ogonyok* was understood to be one) of eroding national values through a misguided use of *glasnost*, particularly in respect of the controversial Stalinist period.

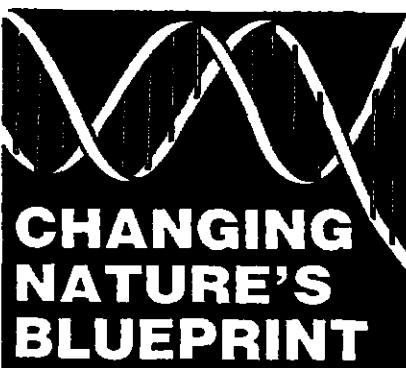
At the weekend, the debate was widened further when *Pravda* dis-

closed that Soviet legislators are now considering introducing a law which would enshrine the principles of *glasnost* in the statute book.

Official Soviet history books all gloss over the worse excesses of Stalin's collectivization of agriculture (in which some six million peasants are thought to have died) and the subsequent purges in which millions more Soviet citizens were sent to camps, where many perished. For this reason, first-hand accounts of the horrors, such as those published yesterday in *Ogonyok*, still come as a shock to many Soviet readers.

Mrs Fedchenko, now a grandmother, explained she had written her letter in reply to Mr Gerasymov. Her letter concluded acerbically: "There is no need to point out the enemies abroad. We have enemies of *glasnost* in our own country."

Where gene banks safely graze



CHANGING NATURE'S BLUEPRINT

Sheep with human genes, strawberries growing in Alaska — through genetic engineering, miracles are now a reality. But at what cost? Beginning a two-part series, George Hill reports on science's successes, and examines its moral dilemma

There is a flock of sheep in Edinburgh which is really almost human. But not in any superficial way — such as standing up on their hind legs and bleating "Who's a pretty boy, then?"; no, their affinity with us is much more radical. They are giving birth to "transgenic" lambs, every cell of whose bodies contains a human gene.

It makes no difference to the lambs' appearance or behaviour, but eventually a flock of 100 transgenic ewes could supply enough human blood-clotting protein in their milk to supply all the haemophiliacs in Europe.

"Our tests on the milk are not conclusive," says Dr John Clark, of the Agriculture and Food Research Council's Edinburgh research station, "but we have high hopes that the agent is there, and that this will become a commercial proposition in the next few years."

"We have another sheep carrying the gene for a factor which could arrest the damage done by the lung disease emphysema. This substance, Alpha One Anti-trypsin, can be produced from human blood plasma, but not in the quantities that could be used."

The use of animals as medicine factories is only a part of the rapidly growing technology which enables scientists to manipulate the genetic make-up of animals, plants and, in theory, human beings. They have, almost within their grasp, dazzling new powers to transform agriculture and medical diagnosis and treatment.



Four-legged test-tubes: Dr John Clark, of the Agriculture and Food Research Council, and the sheep whose lambs could one day be a life-saver to haemophiliacs

Scientists have dazzling new powers to transform medicine

The institute, with a matching grant from the Government. "We have succeeded in introducing virus resistance into tobacco plants, by a rather neat molecular device, and hope to transfer this to more useful plants," Woolhouse says. Understanding how to gain entry to the tightly locked genetic codes of plant species in this way is the first crucial step towards giving them new capacities for resisting disease and withstanding extreme conditions. The great prize would be to achieve this with a cereal crop — and it is reported that Japanese researchers have just succeeded in doing it with rice.

"We have also discovered a completely new enzyme for fixing atmospheric nitrogen," Woolhouse adds. "It might make it possible to enable

plants to get more nourishment out of the soil without using artificial fertilizers." The institute has also done work on microbes, and has just succeeded in producing the first completely new streptomycin antibiotic constructed by genetic engineering techniques.

The potential, and the uncertainties, of the state of the art as far as animals are concerned is illustrated by a story of young pigs at the AFRC's Institute of Animal Physiology in Cambridge which have had a growth hormone from cattle added to their genetic make-up. Analysis has shown that the gene has manifested itself in their cells, and will be passed from generation to generation. The only disappointment is that the gene has failed to engage with the pigs' growth

processes: they have remained the size that nature intended.

American researchers are reported to have already produced pigs engineered to grow faster and supply leaner bacon, and to have bred frostproof potatoes and strawberries hardy enough to grow in Alaska. "But I think Britain is in the lead," says Professor Barry Cross, the AFRC's director of animal physiology and genetics research. "Our Cambridge research station has been in the forefront of all these artificial breeding techniques. Other laboratories are catching up very fast, though, and sometimes have 10 times our resources. Companies are already getting into the act, although there won't really be a commercial end product on the farm animals side for five or 10 years."

As the commercial pace quickens, controversy is already brewing in the United States over a decision to allow mutated life forms to be patented. And in Britain serious public awareness of the issues is beginning to stir.

TESTING TIME

Mutant with a mission

In the next few weeks, researchers in Oxford hope to release into the open air a genetically engineered virus in a test programme further advanced than anything of its kind anywhere in the world.

To allay fears that the artificially mutated virus will spread on the winds and cause us all to develop green scaly growths and start behaving like zombies, Professor David Bishop, director of the Oxford Institute of Virology, has run a carefully controlled step-by-step programme, and taken care to keep the public informed at each stage. Now he is waiting for ministers at the Department of Agriculture to give permission for the next step, which has already been approved by the Advisory Committee on Genetic Manipulation.

In the test, the small mottled willow moth caterpillar — a pest which is uncommon in Britain but widespread in Europe and elsewhere, attacking crops of the cabbage and beet families — will be exposed to the altered virus, which kills it.

Then, because the mutated virus has been stripped of its protective outer covering, it too is destroyed by the sun's ultra-violet light, almost as soon as the host caterpillar has disintegrated. In its natural form, the virus can survive many months in leaves and earth.

Infested crops could be sprayed with the altered virus, eliminating the pest without leaving behind any of the pollution associated with chemical insecticides. "At this stage, we mean to ensure that the virus is self-destructive, before we go on with other manipulations designed to make it attack the pest more efficiently," Bishop says.

"It will be three to four years before there is any question of general use. Understanding how to attack the pest will be a stepping-stone to finding similar ways of controlling others, without the environmental side-effects of pesticides."

Unlike some areas of plant research, the programme offers too few prospects of rapid commercial return to interest business investors. "It is a long-term area of inquiry," Bishop says. "But in 100 years, things emanating from the kind of work we are doing should have many important applications in agriculture and horticulture."

TOMORROW

Miracles for sale? The ethics of gene transplants

What?

Rudyard Kipling spoke of the "six honest serving-men" who taught him all he knew. Their names were What, Why, When, How, Where and Who. This questioning approach to life and learning can be endlessly interesting, rewarding and fun — but only if you can get at the answers.

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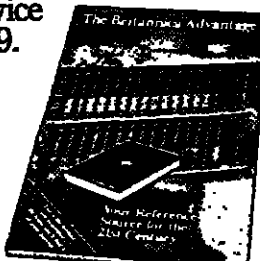
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So much for Saint-Tropez

One of the last unspoilt stretches on the Mediterranean coastline is under threat from the ubiquitous bulldozer



ciated with one of the most famous names in seaside tourism, Saint-Tropez. The district is called the Presqu'île de Saint-Tropez, a hilly peninsula including, on the north side, Saint-Tropez itself but also the villages of Ramatuelle, Giga, La Croix-Valmer and Gassin.

There are many villas here — but also many hillside completely unspoiled. The hinterland of its great beach of Pampelonne is still rural Provence. And it is about to vanish.

In the last few years, the slow steady addition of a villa here, a villa there, sunk in here, has been swept aside by the mass development of holiday homes, particularly on the hitherto virtually untouched south side in the community of La Croix-Valmer. Giga, one of the loveliest sites in the world five years ago, has suddenly been given a railled promenade. It never needed, modern street-lamps, wide approach roads and roundabouts, and the hills above it, almost overnight it seems, have turned pink and orange with building. Pink cement and orange roof tiles are the way the French guarantee harmony with Provencal tradition — apparently the only planning law.

These small apartments and studios are glued together in lumps which the landscape cannot digest. The lumps are then stuck on the crests of hills so they can be sold for their views, thus causing offence for

that all building permits are in their hands. And mayors are often associated with those interests happy to see maximum development. Privately owned forest is being sold off piecemeal, or smallholdings, inherited by young people unwilling to work the land, are sold in their entirety.

How can such a place be protected for future generations? First, the Massif des Maures, including the Presqu'île, should become a national park. Away from the coast the Massif is remarkably untouched, though increasingly threatened.

Second, perhaps the time has come for France to create an equivalent to our National Trust. It could then initiate something similar to the National Trust's Operation Neptune, which bought up much of Britain's coast at the eleventh hour. However ravaged, the Mediterranean and its life will continue to be powerfully attractive to us northerners, so its beauty is worth fighting for.

For the moment, anyone who knows and loves this part of France should write in appeal to the President of the Republic, the Palais Elysée, Paris.

Duncan Fallowell
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CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1349

ACROSS	1 Coached (6)	2 Portioned play (6)	3 Jabber (3)	4 Load (6)	5 Ship's flag (6)	6 1806 Napoleonic Prussian defeat (4)	7 Exclusive possession (8)	8 Fitting retribution (6,7)	9 Exhaust land (8)	10 Dissolute man (4)	11 Mix informally (8)	12 Stick to (6)	13 Lubricate (3)	14 View (6)	15 Marzipan nut (6)
DOWN	1 Check red (5)	2 Lewis Carroll milliner (3,6)	3 Forceful (7)	4 Geese formation (5)	5 Surgeon's body (11,11)	6 Virtuous (7)	7 Stiffening ribbon (9)	8 Readily apparent (7)	9 Old Swedish university (7)	10 Automobile (5)	11 Burmese Tan (5)	12 Born as (3)	13	14	15

SOLUTION TO NO 1348
ACROSS: 1 Scotch 2 Cape 3 Ready 4 Expatriate 5 Gnocchi 6 Probe 7 Type 8 Emme 9 Ennui 10 Ennui 11 Ennui 12 Ennui 13 Ennui 14 Ennui 15 Ennui 16 Ennui
DOWN: 1 Scotch 2 Cape 3 Ready 4 Expatriate 5 Gnocchi 6 Probe 7 Type 8 Emme 9 Ennui 10 Ennui 11 Ennui 12 Ennui 13 Ennui 14 Ennui 15 Ennui 16 Ennui

Nationwide Anglia.

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Nationwide and Anglia are not getting together on September 1 to bring about Britain's biggest building society merger.

Nor are we doing it just to have more branches than any other building society.

Nor even to offer more services within those branches. Although we do.

The answer is quite simple (which makes a change for a financial organisation).

We are getting together to give you a real financial alternative.

In recent years Nationwide and Anglia had independently been setting the pace among building societies with innovations like an interest paying current account and cashless shopping.

Quite simply we had been keeping pace with changes in the way people want to use their money.

So it made sense to get together. It means we'll be able to offer all the traditional services of building societies as well as many of the services provided by banks, estate agents and insurance companies.

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We started by asking people what they wanted.

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If you don't believe a building society can be this different, we simply suggest you drop into your nearest Nationwide Anglia branch and put us to the test.

We'd like to tell you why, in today's changing financial world, one building society is better than two.

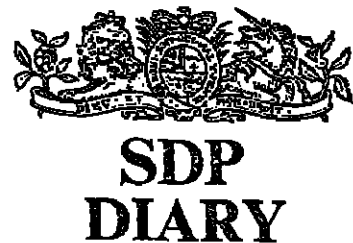
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SDP DIARY

Putsching ahead

With SDP managers proposing 10 job cuts at Cowley Street headquarters as part of an urgent cost-cutting package, Owenites claim they are being invited to head the charge. The anti-mergers say it has been hinted they may "prefer" severance pay as they will be out of line with the new-style party. But soundings have been discreet: "It was made clear that if I denied the Doctor three times before the cock crows, my future prospects were good," one told me. Already five of the 35 staff have volunteered to go. The belt-tightening, outlined by party secretary Dick Newby at a staff meeting that disrupted the start of the Portsmouth conference, was promptly dubbed "the panic package". As well as the London redundancies, the Welsh office is to close and the Scottish office be reduced to one. These cuts, I am told, will reduce the organization to the size it was after the 1983 election.

History man

Amid the heckling, backbiting and infighting at the conference there is someone with a sense of humour and history. After David Owen's address at an anti-merger fringe meeting on Sunday evening, delegates saw a noose suspended above a placard bearing the legend: "Don't do it, Glyndwr." A reference, I presume, to the fractious 14th-century Welsh leader Owen Glendower, who led the unsuccessful rebellion against Henry IV at Shrewsbury.

Day of the jackal

As if Social Democrats hadn't got enough on their plate at Portsmouth, delegates are also having to contend with Conservative and Labour attempts to pick off the faint-hearted. Labour MP Austin Mitchell and John Lloyd, editor of the *New Statesman*, are tonight hosting a reception under the aegis of the Fabian Society to persuade disaffected SDP left-wingers to transfer their allegiance. Meanwhile, Conservative Central Office has produced a special edition of *News Line* bearing fraternal greetings from Norman Tebbit. While delegates may have resented the attention, they were impressed by Tory organization. "I was given their leaflet before I even had time to register," one agent said.

Is it coincidence that Gosport, five minutes by ferry from the SDP, is the home of HMS Alliance? The Second World War sub has been taken out of the water and is now a memorial museum.

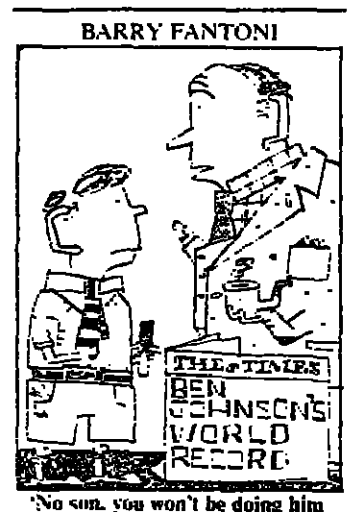
Hybrid

At least one union looks likely: between the two anti-merger groups, the Campaign for Social Democracy and Grassroots Uprising. While sharing the same aims the two have kept apart because the regional-based Grassroots feared the Campaign was too focused on the personalities of the anti-merger MPs and would rush into a breakaway party. Now Marina Carr, a Grassroots founder, says that a softer Campaign line means they can effectively merge, but she will be keeping a close eye on MPs. "I intend to protect the regionality of this movement," she warns. "Politics does not begin and end at Westminster." Plans are afoot for David Owen to head a national speaking tour, with a rally in November.

Such is the division within the SDP that last night saw two separate revues, one sponsored by the Campaign for Social Democracy and a rival show put on by a group of pro-merger Scots.

Nom de guerre

The chief concern of many delegates seems to be the fate of the party's name. David Owen's supporters have been assured by their legal advisers that they can retain it if the others form a new party with the Liberals. The lawyers say a precedent was set in 1981 by *Kean v McGivan* and others when the fledgling party was taken to court by a band of northern-based Social Democrats who failed in their attempt to stop the Limehouse Four adopting it. Then the Appeal Court ruled that the name of a political party, unlike a trade or business, does not constitute property. The McGivan of the 1981 case is the same Alec McGivan, the party's former national organizer who resigned to join the pro-merger group. So you can't have it both ways, Alec.



PHS

John Grigg considers the character and future of the man of perpetual promise

Can Owen ever admit he was wrong?



Richard Wilson

No doubt it always irked a man of Owen's temperament to be in a subordinate role, but he recognized Jenkins's seniority, admired his record, and shared his distaste for the fudging and muddling of men such as Harold Wilson and James Callaghan.

In 1977, Callaghan appointed Owen Foreign Secretary, Jenkins having left to become president of the EEC Commission in Brussels. Now Owen could feel Jenkins's equal, if not his superior; and the change of status also involved a new allegiance.

In his autobiography, produced in collaboration with Kenneth Harris (*Personally Speaking*, Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.95) Owen describes his outlook in

1977 with some candour: "I was determined that my loyalty was to be seen to be unequivocally with Jim and not to allow any suspicion in No 10 that I was still one of 'Roy's boys'". These developments provide the essential background for an understanding of what has happened more recently.

When the SDP was formed in 1981, Jenkins was convinced from the first that it should be closely allied with the Liberals, and that the two parties should fuse as soon as possible. Owen, however, was suspicious of the Liberals and hostile to fusion. This was an important difference of opinion, but undoubtedly aggravated by the personal factor, and all the more so when Jenkins was elected lead-

er of the SDP, defeating Owen. After the 1983 general election, in which the two parties, though separate, put forward a single "Prime Minister designate" (Jenkins), Owen supplanted Jenkins as SDP leader. In Parliament he performed magnificently, showing rare capacity to dominate the House from below the Gangway. He was also most impressive on television. But he remained an implacable obstacle to organic unity within the Alliance.

As a result, the Alliance fought the last election not only as two parties, but with two leaders, and Owen's predictions that the voters would find the spectacle attractive were not fulfilled. Many SDP members who had accepted his judgement, however reluctantly, were then bound to feel that, on this issue, Jenkins had been right after all. They were also entitled to believe that last year's disastrous Liberal assembly vote on nuclear weapons would never have occurred in a single party with a properly drawn constitution. Hence the ballot majority for merger negotiations.

In his book Owen tells us that, at prep school, he was a bad loser at games. Perhaps he was not entirely rid himself of the defect. He also says: "You've got to learn from your failures, you've got to learn from your mistakes". But it seems desperately hard for him to admit, by implication, that he was wrong when Jenkins was right.

After the ballot he might honourably have accepted the defeat of Option 1 — which, whatever its ulterior motive, was not ostensibly for separation, but for a closer constitutional framework for the Alliance — and have offered to negotiate, in good faith, in accordance with the majority decision. Instead he resigned, and it fell to Robert MacLennan, who had voted the same way as he did in the ballot, to play the part of a democratic leader.

MacLennan, Owen says in his book, "is a person whom it is all too easy to underestimate". Perhaps he was underestimated by Owen. As Randolph Churchill forgot Goeben, so Owen may have forgotten MacLennan.

But it would be a tragedy for the country, as well as for himself, if he were to go the way of Randolph Churchill, and of other charismatic leaders who have overplayed their hands.

Frances Gibb on the pressure for stronger laws on women's pay

Battle for an equal break

The government will have to decide soon whether it really wants effective laws to promote equality for women. Although in force for more than 10 years, the Sex Discrimination Act and the Equal Pay Act have failed to make an impact: women's earnings still hover at around 75 per cent of men's.

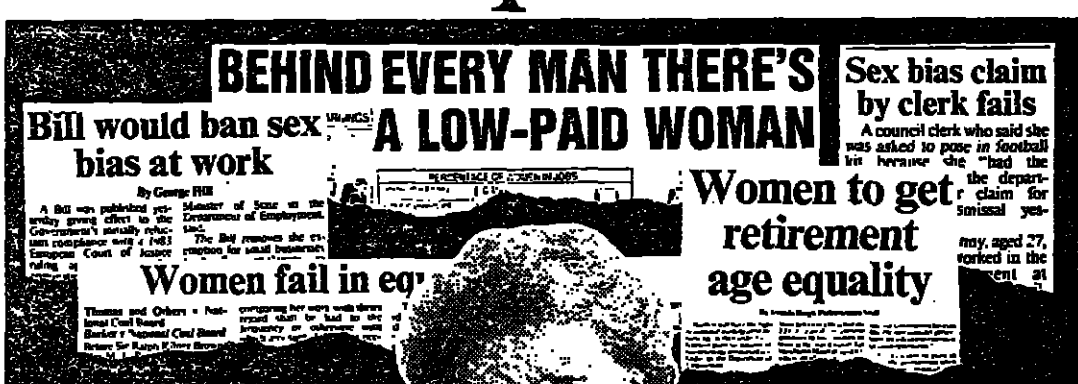
Women today comprise 42 per cent of the labour force but remain concentrated in low-paid and often part-time jobs such as catering, cleaning and hairdressing. So what has gone wrong? The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) has been addressing the question minutely in recent months, and after wide consultation, will soon put forward proposals for change. Their final form has yet to be determined by the 13 commissioners when they meet under their chairman, Lady Platt, this autumn, but there is a strong chance that the commission, perhaps for the first time, will stick its neck out.

The commission has at its disposal the research conducted recently by Alice Leonard, its deputy legal adviser, on the effectiveness of the laws. Her report (to be published soon by the Cobden Trust) will reinforce another which she wrote for the commission in April showing that between 1976 and 1983, only 11 per cent of all sex discrimination and equal pay claims before tribunals were successful.

When women did win, the sums of compensation were often derisory. Half of all known tribunal awards under the Sex Discrimination Act were for less than £300, and under the Equal Pay Act more than 40 per cent of all known pay increases ordered were for £8 a week or less. Several recipients condemned their awards as "insults".

Almost half the claimants also had problems getting employers to pay the compensation or to take the action the tribunal recommended: a failure which the EOC says detracts from the credibility of the whole legal system. A number said that after winning their cases they had been harassed or victimized to such an extent that they left their jobs.

The present incumbent, Tom King, and his wife Jane, who runs the family farm in Wiltshire, will have received similar advice, and in the two years since his appointment they will have come to accept the extensive restrictions on ordinary life, and the constant presence of guards, that are part of the price to be paid for their entry to the public life of the province. The vast effort to protect politicians in and out of Northern Ireland is a little-publicized part of



There was also concern that the complexity of the new laws is forcing women to take cases to higher and higher courts. The EOC won a spectacular victory in the case of Southampton dietician Helen Marshall last year when the European Court of Justice held that different retirement ages for men and women breached European law. It has prompted immediate legislation.

But success has been slow in the courts here. Two important test cases on equal pay still await a hearing in the House of Lords: Julie Hayward, the Cammell Laird canteen cook who claims equal pay with shipyard painters and joiners, and women warehouse workers at Freemans mail order house who claim equal pay with male checkers. A test case for Health Service workers brought by three speech therapists is awaiting a ruling in the High Court.

The European Commission forced the government to change its original equal pay law so that women could bring claims for "equal pay for work of equal value". Until then women could bring claims only when doing the same job. That did not meet the problem of the many women "segregated" into jobs where there were no men.

But the new pay law, which came into force in 1984, has made no impact. The EOC believes many women are deterred from bringing claims because of the cost, complexity and length of the proceedings, which often go to higher courts.

In the face of all this, the



Lady Platt: she and her colleagues prepare to stick their neck out

commission is to ask the government to make some radical changes. First it wants all the existing laws to promote equality to be brought into one comprehensive and clear statute.

Second, and more controversial, it may seek tougher powers to identify and eradicate discrimination. The commission has frequently been criticized for making little use of its formal powers of investigation — only nine times in 11 years. One reason is the obstacles put in its way: mere suspicion of unlawful discrimination is not enough unless the company concerned consents to its coming in.

Alan Lakin, the EOC's legal adviser, says: "If we have a complaint, or a series of them, or other evidence of unlawful discrimination, then these constitute grounds for an investigation. But quite often we only have a feeling that something is wrong. There may be something in the system which is contributing seriously to job segregation which the

commission would like to get at and tease out; not with a view to convicting the employer but to drawing lessons and suggesting good practice."

At the same time the commission is likely to ask for simpler procedures for formal investigations, cutting down on the numerous opportunities for employers to make representations and to state their case.

Third, it is likely to press for tougher sanctions: power to order — not just to recommend — changes in practice when conducting an investigation; and power to bring legal proceedings itself before tribunals against anyone suspected of unlawful discrimination. This would remove the burden of individuals bringing claims.

Where discrimination is found, the EOC is likely to ask that employers be able to go to a tribunal and claim compensation on the basis of its findings. It would also like to see minimum levels of compensation in cases of victimization and greater powers for tribunals to see that the money is paid.

Finally, there is a need for more training and greater specialization among those hearing cases: these should be concentrated among fewer tribunals.

Greater powers of intervention would be strongly resisted by commerce and industry, if not by the government. After years of low-key activity, the EOC now has a chance to show its muscle and put pressure on the government to translate pious aspiration into solid deed.

Ulster guardians who never sleep

The life-sustaining qualities of net curtains are among the first facts of life to impinge upon the lives of the families of ministers appointed to Northern Ireland and of Ulstermen elected to Westminster. Mrs Jane Prior had barely been told by her husband that he had decided to take the job as Northern Ireland Secretary, than security advisers were at their flat in London. The net curtains, they explained, would both make life more difficult for a sniper and limit the dangers from flying glass in an explosion.

The present incumbent, Tom King, and his wife Jane, who runs the family farm in Wiltshire, will have received similar advice, and in the two years since his appointment they will have come to accept the extensive restrictions on ordinary life, and the constant presence of guards, that are part of the price to be paid for their entry to the public life of the province. The vast effort to protect politicians in and out of Northern Ireland is a little-publicized part of

the work of the security services. Gone are the days when a senior minister could walk down the nationalist Falls Road in Belfast, as James Callaghan did. But the Secretary of State and his team recognize the propaganda that would be made if they were hardly ever visible in public.

Ensuring that ministers can do this, and that local politicians can visit constituents and address local meetings, involves the Royal Ulster Constabulary in considerable deployment of men on protection duties.

A pool of officers, specially trained in marksmanship, evasive driving and close protection duties, accompany ministers, judges, local politicians and other VIPs both on and off duty. Many of their wards have their homes guarded by close circuit television and a permanent security checkpoint at the gate.

In restaurants the plain-clothes men will book a table nearby; others will sit outside in unmarked vehicles. They will be with the

person on the golf course, at the swimming pool with their children, on the beach while walking with toddlers, and at the supermarket during the weekly family shopping trip.

King travels the province by helicopter or is chauffeured at speed in an armoured Daimler with an armed officer in the front passenger seat. In front and behind are two "trail" cars containing more armed officers. Every place he visits will have been searched and is guarded. Ministers fly in and out of the province with the RAF.

Most ministers accept this level of security as a fact of life in the province, but back in their own constituencies, where Scotland Yard and local police forces take over the work of the RUC, resentments can arise. Some ministers, and especially their wives, dislike the intrusion of security men into their privacy, particularly when they are unconvinced the threat is all that real.

One minister's wife said: "I can

put up with it in Northern Ireland but not when it intrudes into my home in England. When they are in the kitchen or the front of the car you feel you cannot have a good row."

King himself remains relaxed about the level of security that surrounds him and will continue for several years after he leaves Northern Ireland.

The security forces have been warning throughout the summer that the Provisional IRA are anxious for a major success after the setback they received in May when eight terrorists were shot dead by the SAS as they launched an attack on a country police station at Loughgall.

The RUC will have noted the words of Gerry Adams at the funeral of one of the men. "We will remember Loughgall, and Margaret Thatcher and Tom King and all the other rich and powerful people will be sorry in their time that Loughgall happened."

Richard Ford

Doug Jones

The best Labour form of defence

Many political commentators believe that Labour must change its defence policy if it is to mount a serious challenge to the Conservatives at the next election. Within the party a number of people, including some personally opposed to nuclear weapons, are coming to the view that Labour should commit itself to keep them, at least until they can be negotiated away.

Intellectually there is no case for nuclear weapons. But elections are about politics, not intellectual debate, and nuclear weapons remain an important political item. In some minds they assume a status similar to mortgage tax relief — a complete waste of money, a misallocation of scarce resources, but politically impossible to remove.

This view is reinforced if you think that war — particularly nuclear war — is unlikely. Why waste time and effort arguing about nuclear weapons? Why not accept them, push them to the back of the political agenda, and get on with the issues that really matter: health, education, the economy? After all, whether or not Britain has nuclear weapons is unlikely to prevent a nuclear war. If the US or the Soviet Union were contemplating one, our nuclear bombs would be an almost irrelevant consideration.

The case for a switch in defence policy may seem obvious after three successive electoral defeats, but it is essential not to jump to hasty conclusions. The split such a switch would cause in the Labour Party is not worth it. A change of nuclear weapons policy would undoubtedly alienate many middle-of-the-road and moderate-left Labour members as well as the hard left.

Many of the hard left have moved a long way since the heady days of Bennism; non-nuclear defence may be just about all that is left of their left-wing credentials and is an article of faith in their continuing support for Neil Kinnock. The rowing that would follow an attempted change would be far more damaging to Labour than the defence policy was in the first place. In any case a nuclear defence policy would prove extremely difficult to get through the party conference.

There are other reasons not to rush to new decisions on defence. Labour policy could quite easily be overtaken between now and the next election by international events. Reagan and Gorbachev may yet succeed in pushing through multilateral nuclear disarmament. If Labour did change its policy it would also be faced with the question that should have been asked far more aggressively of Margaret Thatcher during the last election campaign: under what circumstances would nuclear weapons be used?

It is impossible to conceive of Labour having a policy of first strike — a policy to start a nuclear war. And if the policy is second strike or retaliation — which is essentially what deterrence is —

again it is impossible to conceive of Neil Kinnock or any other Labour prime minister wiping out Europe for reasons of personal or national vanity. What is achieved by killing millions of East and West Europeans as well as your own British subjects? These people were not responsible for the nuclear weapons launch in the first place. It might be possible for a substantial part of the human race to survive one nuclear weapons launch — but certainly not a nuclear exchange.

Perhaps nuclear deterrence is "credible" with Mrs Thatcher because people may believe she is mad enough to use nuclear weapons, that she is callous enough to sacrifice millions of lives to save face. It is a character flaw that Neil Kinnock lacks.

If Labour is to retain its present policy of no nuclear weapons on British soil it must clarify two issues. First, the question of the American nuclear umbrella and, second, British participation in Nato, which is in part a nuclear alliance. Even without nuclear weapons on British soil we would remain under the US nuclear umbrella. The umbrella is there whether we like it or not, even if a Labour government would never demand the use of nuclear weapons. Unfortunately or fortunately, depending on your view, it is part of the policy of the whole Nato alliance, of which Britain under Labour leadership would be only one member.

Some draw from this the conclusion that the Labour Party should not only be non-nuclear but also be committed to leave Nato. But membership of Nato is justified on conventional grounds whether or not Labour keeps its nuclear forces. Being outside Nato would not stop Britain being drawn into a European war, nor from suffering nuclear fallout in the event of an exchange of nuclear weapons. Moreover, a policy to leave Nato is politically incredible and would make Labour unelectable. That is why it is advocated only by fringe, romantic politicians completely deaf to the wishes of the British people.

The best course for the Labour Party to follow now, and almost certainly into the next election, is its present pro-Nato, non-nuclear defence policy. It needs to be presented more simply and aggressively. It cannot be buried beneath such issues as employment, education and health, which may have more resonance with the public. What is certain is that haste to change policy in the next two or three years is almost certainly inappropriate. It does not make sense even for those opposed to unilateral nuclear disarmament. Even they must see that the provocation of uproar and discord in the Labour Party over nuclear weapons will look particularly ridiculous if it takes place against a background of international multilateral disarmament.

The author is economic assistant to Roy Hattersley. He is writing in a personal capacity.

however . . . Henry Stanhope

Working for their wigs

I was pleased to see the other day that someone was taking our judges to task for spending too much time on holiday. Why they need so much time off beats me.

There they sit, red-robed and full-bottomed, all-powerful within the confines of their court (an apt term if ever there were one), with everyone bowing and scraping. It's not as if they can suffer from much stress. When did you last hear of Mr Justice Gostlowy, aged 76 if a day, being threatened with early retirement?

I remember one judge suspending Northampton Assizes for a quarter of an hour because he had spilt his snuff. Now if anyone else had even taken snuff, let alone spilt it, or dropped his retractable ballpoint as he sneezed, he would have been bundled down the steps for contempt of court before he could say "M'Lord".

Yet the Civil Justice Review, set up two years ago to examine the administration of civil law, has pointed out that the High Court shuts for two months in the summer and for 20 more working week days in the year — leaving a vacation judge behind to mind the shop. Now the National Consumer Council has gone so far as to call for our suntuously judiciary to work the same hours as everyone else.

The first thing to be said about this is that I would not like to be the Chairman of the National Consumer Council the next time he is up for illegal parking. As he stands in No 1 court at the Old Bailey he might well be impressed by the meticulous care paid by Mr Justice Gostlowy to the legal complications of his case. But the council of course is quite right.

Should it prove impossible to coax them back from their *plages* and *pisces*, an alternative way to clear a queue of aspiring litigants is simply to create more judges. As far as I can see, all that you need to become one is a working knowledge of Pim's shorthand, a built-in resistance to narcolepsy, and enough common sense to tell the difference between a villain and a man of honest toil.

A copy of *Everybody's Guide to The Criminal Law*, stuffed into one's back trouser pocket, might

also come in handy in a crisis. Now the right combination of such qualities is not commonly found, but I am not convinced that its scarcity value is worth £70,000 a year (plus expenses, generous holidays, job security and free parking).

For most of the time all a judge has to do is preside — while slapping down some overpaid young barrister if he gets too cocky and noting down all the jokes for future use. He has to sum up for the jury. But this is no more than an elaborate precis of everything they have heard at least once before — an annotated action replay of the case.

The reporter from the local newspaper has already done much the same thing, though under much tighter restrictions on time and space. A judge can waffle on, and on, and on.

Ladies and gentlemen of the jury," he begins. "You have heard the defendant say that being of a sporting disposition he had been out, ah, jogging, when he fancied he saw smoke emerging from an upstairs window of the said house. Being a public spirited individual he promptly, ah, shinned up the drainpipe to alert those inside, donning a stocking mask while doing so to protect his delicate chest from noxious fumes."

"On seeing a handsome collection of Georgian silver on the mantelpiece he thought it advisable to remove this temporarily for safe keeping. It was while he was returning from his errand of mercy at 2am that he bumped into Police Constable Pled."

"Now you may think, members of the jury, that this is a case of smoke without fire . . ." (pause for press to write this down) . . . "It is, however, for you to decide . . . and so on. It's no harder than judging the dahlias at the British Legion Annual Flower Show."

One problem with the Common Law is that it's not nearly common enough. Going to court is not only costly but inconvenient. Why not family courts behind Tesco's in the lunch-hour, with a charge for members of the public to attend (an idea in the Thatcherite mould)? The law might then become an asset, not an ass.



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AN ETHOS FOR INNER CITIES

Largely unnoticed over the holiday weekend, the Housing Minister, Mr. William Waldegrave, made a programmatic speech on the future of housing policy. Mr. Waldegrave was flexing his credentials as a Conservative of the 1980s, and he countenanced the end of local authorities (and the state) not just as managers of the housing stock but also as builders, even builders of accommodation for the elderly and handicapped.

Any speech about housing is necessarily about the inner cities. What the junior minister was saying, in effect, was that the inner cities will not be regenerated by some great public (or private) rebuilding effort. There will be no crusade to refurbish the physical stock. His logic is that inner-city policy is not, any longer, about the physical condition of buildings. In short, it is not about the environment.

But at once the question posed itself was Mr. Waldegrave speaking out of turn? He was cutting a wide swathe through existing inner-city policy, and incidentally reducing the role in it for his own department, Environment.

There has this summer been an orgy of urban policy-making, most of it with direct implications for the inner areas. Take education. Take the restructuring of local government finance, notably the uniform business rate. Each measure, by itself, would in the fullness of time lead to great change both in the economy and in the politics of the inner urban areas.

Meanwhile, government ministers have allowed the impression to grow that, come September, there would be some grand departure in their policy for the inner cities. With the announcement of Mrs. Thatcher's planned tour and publicity for the work being done on behalf of the ad hoc Cabinet committee, expectation has heightened: that she will shortly cut through the Gordian knot—bang heads together in a favourite injunction—and make greater sense of the overlapping strands of public policy for the regeneration of the inner areas.

This kind of political metaphor is unhealthy. It puts undue emphasis on a minister, the Prime Minister, with umpteen other responsibilities. It encourages expectation of dramatic action to "solve" a set of problems. It is therefore rather ignorant of the socio-economic reality, being based on some crude model of social engineering that looks uncomfortably like the reverse side of the mirror being held up to the inner areas by the Labour councils which are so evidently part of the problem.

Inner-city policy can never be tidy. It can never have a single thread. It can never produce results quickly, that is, within the

average politician's time span. But it can be tidier. There is a strong case for administrative rationalization of the various programmes spread between departments, perhaps for a single minister to take them into his hands.

What is needed above all, however, and it probably must come from the Prime Minister himself, is a sense of the "big picture". Until June the conventional wisdom said inner-city policy was about the management of inevitable decline. Until June the focus was environmental. Both have now changed. What are the new guidelines? Here Mr. Waldegrave's cue is useful. Until now, success in inner-city policy has been measurable in terms of houses built (by Barratts as much as Barking Council), acres cleared, development corporations installed.

In the early hours of June 12 Mrs. Thatcher enunciated a different criterion. It was about a frame of mind, an attitude towards success, enterprise, achievement. It was about moral regeneration, not physical rebuilding alone. It is that line of thought that now needs to be amplified, before the bureaucracies are altered and the policy frameworks adapted.

There is a host of practical problems: defining the inner cities, for example, requires tough-minded consideration of whether there is not an altogether separate London government problem. But they cede priority to the political description of the Government's ambition to alter the minds of people (towards business, self-help or whatever) rather than alter their habitat.

Surely, for example, ministers should welcome the kind of policies for enterprise being developed on the ground in Birmingham and Glasgow, where Labour-controlled councils, in close co-operation with the private sector, are attempting to recover a vein of civic pride by reconnecting the enterprise of individuals with the good of the community. Surely that kind of refurbishment of attitude is more important than the precise balance between public and private spending?

There is no ducking the formidable list of decisions to be taken before the new inner-city policy gets off the ground: re-allocating spending decisions between the Environment and Trade and Industry departments, establishing precedence between Lord Young at one and Mr. Ridley at the other, and so on. But they only make sense when the philosophy is in place. That is what Mrs. Thatcher needs to supply this month.

Her officials will give her all sorts of recommendations for sorting out bureaucratic log-jams. What is needed, first, is amplification of that commitment made in June about winning hearts and minds in the inner city.

WHEN THE MONSOON FAILS

There was a time, not so long ago, when drought and famine were annual events in India. The successful Green revolution of the 1960s and 1970s has mercifully broken that cycle. Although there are still food shortages and hunger, mass famine in India is now part of history. The severe drought which has gripped the country this summer will not of itself lead to starvation and death.

The government's food stocks, estimated at over 23 million tonnes, are more than enough to cover the predicted shortfall. During the last two serious droughts, in 1965 and 1966, 13 and 11 million tonnes of grain had to be imported. This time, although the drought is one of the worst on record, India can provide for herself.

Although the spectre of famine no longer stalks India, a drought as severe as this year's can still cause problems. It will disrupt the country's economy and spread hardship to tens, maybe hundreds of millions. It will have potentially damaging political repercussions too.

India's rural economy is where the impact is likely to be most immediate. The drought will affect the agricultural production cycle, reducing next year's output and causing unemployment. Where there is no sowing, the loss of employment will be total. Elsewhere, if the transplanting, harvesting, threshing, winnowing, transport and marketing are affected, there will be distinct falls in the number of people employed. Mr. Gandhi has estimated that as many as 15 million people could come into this category.

Most of them will be people who depend for their livelihood on the agricultural cycle. Now they will have less money to buy food. As prices rise, their resources will be further stretched and the rural economy will witness an adverse shift of real incomes. The poverty trap will be further entrenched, for while those with secure and continuing incomes can contend with drought by readjusting their consumption priorities, the rural poor often have to forego consumption altogether.

This will be the first test for the Indian government. If poor people in the countryside are not to starve, the government will have to

organize relief work programmes to enable them to earn a minimum daily wage. At the same time, government food stocks will have to be made available at guaranteed prices. Otherwise, black marketeering and inflationary price-fixing will flourish and the minimum daily wage will be inadequate. Although India has a National Rural Employment Programme, it is riddled with bureaucratic procedures, inefficiency and unaccountable delays. Moreover, it has never been utilized on the size and scale now required.

The drought will have other effects which will test the government equally. As fodder becomes scarce, farmers scour all available pasture and forests to feed their animals. The widening area of destruction takes its toll on the rural environment. Later, as the cattle start to die, cattle and meat prices fall: not only does the cattle-owner lose on the transaction, but when the rains eventually come he has no animals to help him plough his fields.

The most critical effect of the present drought could, however, be political. This year Mr. Gandhi has already had to contend with financial scandals, ministerial resignations, party dissent and a hostile press. All have taken their toll of the prime minister's standing and the authority of his government.

The drought will only add to his problems and, depending on how expeditiously he acts, it could serve to undermine his position still further. In the eyes of Congress MPs, a growing number of whom are now critical of Mr. Gandhi, the drought is further proof that fortune has deserted the prime minister. As they see it, those whom the gods wish to destroy, they first make unlucky.

In the present political atmosphere any deficiencies in the way the drought is handled—any difficulties with food distribution in particular—will be likely to have political repercussions. The prime minister would be blamed for the slightest hitch and his hopes of political recovery would be set back even further. From now on the drought and Mr. Gandhi's fate will be inextricably linked.

Rising costs of medical defence

From Dr D. J. Niblett
Sir, As an NHS consultant I was dismayed, but not surprised, to learn today (report, August 25) that my salary will next year be again reduced by a huge increase in medical defence subscriptions.

The percentage annual rise in these fees is greater every year, but if a yearly increase of 80 per cent (less than the latest) is assumed, and doctors' pay rises at current rates of inflation, then by my calculations my take-home salary will be exceeded by my defence society subscriptions in just eight years' time.

As a whole-time NHS employee I cannot pass these increases on, and since it is a contractual requirement that I am a member of a defence society I cannot choose to have no insurance and sign all my possessions to my wife, so that there would be no point in suing me. This, unbelievably, is what some clinicians in the USA have been forced to do.

As your report points out, the only result is likely to be defensive medical practice and increasingly demoralised physicians and surgeons.

Clearly this cannot be allowed to continue. Either the Government should instruct the DHSS to pay the defence fees of full-time NHS doctors, or a proportion equivalent to the NHS commitment of those with some private practice, or they must introduce a no-fault compensation scheme.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID J. NIBLETT,
Alberta, Station Road,
Turvey, Bedfordshire,
August 25.

From the Director of Action for the Victims of Medical Accidents
Sir, I am deeply disappointed by the response of the British Medical

Association to the increase in medical insurance premiums as reported by Jill Sherman (August 25). I can well understand doctors themselves reacting badly to any demand for more money, but I would expect the BMA to exercise a reassuring influence and attempt to put the issue in perspective rather than play on the fears of doctors.

In an extremely well researched article in their own journal (*British Medical Journal*, volume 294, p1599) it was stated that "clinical decision-making is influenced by many factors, including the payment system, training, work environment, peer system, and the physical stress or fatigue of the doctor. It is not obvious that fear of litigation is a stronger or more immediate concern than some of these".

The concentration on the financial aspects of the BMA is also to be deplored; but even on that basis there is little support for the thesis that doctors would be discouraged from considering a career in hospital medicine. The solicitors referred to in the article on the same page whose gross fees were £50,000 a year would be receiving a net income of about £12,000 from which they have to find £1,620 a year for their insurance. Yet we do not hear of young lawyers for that reason eschewing private practice.

What the BMA, and everyone else concerned about the problem, should be doing is calling for a full independent enquiry into the whole problem of medical accidents and the financing of compensation.
Yours faithfully,
A. SIMANOWITZ, Director,
Action for the Victims of Medical Accidents,
24 Southwark Street, SE1.

Random breath tests

From Mr J. E. deB. Norman
Sir, I read with great interest your report (August 24) that the Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety is in favour of random breath testing (RBT).

Bravo. Why wait three years to introduce a public health measure (in its most catholic sense) which has saved untold lives in Australia? This single measure has had a significant impact on the morbidity and mortality associated with vehicular accidents.

The Government had the good sense to combine saturation advertising with the introduction of RBT. The police went out of their way to use experienced officers who implemented the breath-testing in an efficient and courteous manner. It is now an established fact of life in Australia.

If you drink you do not drive. There are no excuses if you are stopped and are "over the limit", you are charged. The system is random in time and place and the driver has no advance knowledge

of where or when he may be stopped.

When the seat-belt legislation was implemented my colleagues and I noted a reduction in certain injuries. When RBT took hold there was a further and significant reduction. Of course we still see devastating injuries and other measures must be implemented.

Are the politicians able to screw their courage to the sticking place and pass this legislation? Instead of trumpeting about the untrammelled rights of the individual (i.e., to drive a car when drunk) spare a thought for the innocent victim of carnage: nearly 6,000 people killed on the roads, but how many injured and what did it cost? RBT is an efficacious measure, proved beyond doubt. I remain, Sir, your obedient servant.

J. E. deB. NORMAN,
St George's Hospital,
Belgrave Street,
Kogarah, New South Wales,
Australia.
August 24.

Shortage of nurses

From Ms Gale Brooks
Sir, The high cost of using agency nurses described in the first of Jill Sherman's two articles (August 24) is not just financial—it inevitably leads to a drop in standards of nursing care.

At best, a conscientious and experienced nurse will do her best in an unfamiliar hospital, often working in a specialty of which she has no experience. Agency nurses may find themselves caring for ventilated patients, with no previous intensive care experience, or in a paediatric ward, despite being a general nurse.

At worst, the regular staff bear the heavy responsibility of running the ward, backed up by staff in whom they have no confidence. One finds oneself having to tell the nurse to change an incontinent patient, or turn an immobile patient. One is frequently apologising to doctors and patients for things not done, or done wrongly—intravenous infusions allowed to run through too fast, patients falling out of bed while the nurse dozed, dirty bed pans offered.

I am assured by the managers of one well known agency that it is common knowledge among the agencies which hospitals have blacklists of nurses they will not employ and which do not. Those that do not regularly get sub-standard staff.

It is these stresses as much as any lack of financial reward that causes nurses to leave. There is no job satisfaction in going home knowing that the people in your care have not only had less than the best, but less than the minimum standards of care.

Yours faithfully,
GALE BROOKS,
9 Granwood Court,
The Grove,
Isleworth, Middlesex,
August 26.

Pecking order

From Mrs Claudine R. Singer
Sir, Mr George Tricks (August 25) should certainly avoid further diversification. A few years ago we bought three steers to clean up the grazing after the two horses on our 4.5 hectares. We felt that the resulting avalanche of instructions about brucellosis, tuberculosis and warble fly was all very well, but that a visit from the Health and Safety at Work executive (the biggest machine on the premises was a small lawn-mower) and the award of a herd number was over-egging the pudding.

Yours faithfully,
CLAUDINE R. SINGER,
Bean Place, Bethesda,
Ashford, Kent.

Handel to his name

From Dr F. F. Cartwright
Sir, The Rev Bernard Crofts suggests (*Sports Diary*, August 22) that few Anglican clergymen can have been named after their baptism at a Derby winner. My father, the Rev George Frederick Cartwright (1874-1938), claimed to be the only Anglican parson of his time to have this distinction.

He was born on June 1, 1874. On the following Wednesday, June 6, his great-uncle, W. S. Cartwright, won the Derby with George Frederick at odds 8-1. The horse had been named in honour of the Duke of York, later King George V. Perhaps my father was even more fortunate in his eponym than the Rev Emilius Bayley.

Yours faithfully,
F. F. CARTWRIGHT,
St Michael's Lodge,
Milverton,
Taunton, Somerset.

News fit to smoke

From Mr J. H. Owens
Sir, Mr Gerald Lefebvre's letter (August 21) on the alternative uses of newspaper reminded me of my apprenticeship days in tramp steamers, when my father had prudently ordered *The Times Weekly Review* airmail edition to be forwarded to me via the shipping company's London office.

Its regular arrival in sequence not only provided the intended news and comment, it also gave confirmation of the safe arrival of the ship's mail from the UK, as well as proving to be a source of unexpected wealth for us hungry youngsters when in Papua New Guinea.

There the superior smoking qualities of the airmail edition commanded at least double the value of ordinary newspaper as baiter with the natives in exchange for a variety of delicious tropical fruits.

Still in your debt,
Yours faithfully,
J. H. OWENS,
Plas Coch, Aberffraw,
Anglesey, Gwynedd.

From Mr Philip Jones
Sir, It may be of interest that prisoner-of-war camps under the Japanese had a brisk market in pages from the Holy Bible—if you will forgive me, an even finer paper. The smoking mixture was tobacco stalks (a by-product of cherry manufacture) which were dampened, pounded on concrete with a heavy hammer to the consistency of bran, and redried.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP JONES,
37 Bridge Street,
Bungay, Suffolk.

Court delays seen as aid to justice

From Mr R. E. Ball
Sir, As a former Chancery Master may I be permitted to point out, with reference to proposed reforms in civil procedure (report, July 29) that the purpose of the machinery of justice is not to bring disputes to trial but to secure peace and harmony between the Queen's subjects.

The preliminary stages of an action serve not only to clarify the issues but constitute a sieve for isolating and disposing of matters which do not merit a full trial and a gentle pressure for reasonable compromise.

Judges and masters, at any rate in my time, were prepared to act vigorously to promote settlements when a formal trial was clearly inappropriate, and counsel and solicitors were very often helpful in guiding over-combative clients to moderation, incidentally saving them great expense. Many more actions are started than can possibly be tried and it may fairly be said that the full hearing of an action represents a failure of the system.

From this point of view delay may be beneficial and it is one of

the judicial arts to manipulate time in the interests of eventual accord. It is therefore to be hoped that the impending simplification of procedure will not be pressed to the point where those concerned are hustled along to trial with the issue unresolved, the documentation incomplete and the parties deprived of the time needed for delicate negotiations.

That would do more harm than good, both to the parties and to the courts, which would become more congested than ever. A strict timetable may possibly be right for simple actions at the county court level, but the more complicated disputes which find their way to the High Court require a more flexible approach.

Delay may be politic or negligent. It is only the latter class which needs control. Even senior judges sometimes lose sight of this.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
R. E. BALL (Chief Master,
Supreme Court of Judicature
(Chancery Division), 1969-79,
62 Stanstead Road,
Caterham, Surrey,
August 24.

Ukrainians in UK

From Mr A. Kochan
Sir, As second generation Ukrainians in Great Britain, we were deeply disturbed by the article "How the SS came to Britain" (August 20 and 21). We found Mr Bower's offensively biased referral to Ukrainians throughout the article to be extensively misleading.

To infer that there exist in Great Britain "hundreds" of Ukrainian SS members guilty of war atrocities is to insinuate that the strongly-bonded and close communities of Ukrainians throughout the country have in some way been hiding both the facts and the alleged criminals since the early post-war years. This is an absolute fallacy.

The article concludes that there is no evidence available to substantiate the damning and defamatory accusations as to the existence of such Ukrainians in Great Britain.

Yours faithfully,
A. KOCHAN, Head of the Ukrainian Youth Association,
Manchester Branch,
31 Smedley Lane, Manchester.

Insects and bracken

From Sir Christopher Lever
Sir, I was concerned to read in your Science Report (August 21) that the eggs, larvae and chrysalides of two South African moths have been imported from the Southern Cape as potential controlling agents to bracken in upland Britain.

Success, your special correspondent writes, depends on finding an insect that will only eat bracken. The scientist in charge of the experiment is quoted as saying "... 99 per cent of them won't even try to eat anything except bracken".

But the biology of exotic animals introduced to new environments often changes fundamentally. Even if only the other one per cent and their descendants were to start feeding on sensitive native species other than bracken, the possible ecological consequences are obvious.

The list of similar attempts throughout the world biologically to control animal and plant pests with introduced alien species reads like a roll-call of faunal and floral disasters. Those supervising this particular trial should think well before giving it their approval.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER LEVER,
Newell House,
Winkfield,
Windsor, Berkshire.

Lead shot in swans

From Mr M. J. Langton
Sir, Mr D. C. Bird stated in his letter (August 22) that it is inconceivable that swans could have been found with nothing except lead shot in their gizzards. He is wrong.

Lead shot remains in the gizzard and starts a steady poisoning of the swan. One effect of this nasty poison is to close the gullet, so that no further food can pass into the gizzard.

The result is that, in addition to the other distressing symptoms, the swan starves, with only the undigested lead left in its gizzard.

It is a most unpleasant death. Yours sincerely,
M. J. LANGTON,
Wildwood,
Harpenden,
Henley on Thames,
Oxfordshire,
August 25.

Just the ticket?

From Mr Andrew Craven
Sir, Yesterday I parked my car in the City. On my return I found a note from the City Engineer tucked under the windscreen wiper. It described the "additional" advantages of the new digital parking meters as "greater accuracy", "reliability", and "easy to read". At the bottom the note invited comments.

The list of "advantages" to the City Engineer is of course quite the converse to the motorist, representing the features we all hope are missing in the meter we park under. Is there no escape now?

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW CRAVEN,
28 Lindore Road, SW11,
August 27.

ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 1 1915

Linked with this article a scheme was launched by *The Times* to provide reading matter for the trenches. Broadsheets which could be slipped into letters and parcels supplied a selection of "the best passages, grave and gay, from English verse and prose".

TRENCH STALENESS. MIND-RUST INDUCED BY MONTONY.

NEED FOR LITERATURE
(From our special correspondent.)
BRITISH HEADQUARTERS, Aug. 30.

The world war in the West has become a parish pump war. The business of war-to-day is the most infinitely complicated business in the world, and just as in a highly specialized manufacturing the individual workman may spend his whole life upon one particular piece of work and never gain any comprehensive knowledge of the whole process necessary to the completion of the finished manufacture, so the overwhelming majority of our soldiers, both officers and privates, are limited to a comparatively narrow round of routine work.

This, of course, has been true to a very great extent of all modern warfare, but it is especially true of our months-long war of positions. A battalion may march from billets to the trenches and from the trenches back again to billets many times in succession without ever being called upon to take part in any more active operations. For weeks together the private soldier's view of the countryside may be limited to the sandbagged trench that he is occupying, so much of the German parapets and the intervening barbed wire entanglements as can be seen through a periscope, the sun-baked sides of the communication trenches, and the relatively restricted area into which he is periodically withdrawn to rest.

The average orderly who is detailed to conduct you round a certain set of trenches will often surprise you by the intimacy of his local knowledge. He knows to a hair's breadth at what point along a line it is advisable to duck well down. He will solicitously hurry you in silence past points which seem as safe as any place can be within range of the enemy's well-assorted armory. He knows his way blindfold through the maze of communication trenches that run off from the main positions. He can tell by the smell of the crops growing wild just over the parapet, and sometimes (gruesome fact) by the intense smell of corpses buried so close under one's feet, at what point of the line you are standing and just what you would see if you peeped through the loophole by your side. He knows to a T what new work the enemy is engaged upon and just how many yards he has pushed forward a particular sap since the beginning of the week.

CURIOSITY DULLED

But in proportion as he has gained this minute knowledge, this knowledge almost of the primitive man, he appears to have lost much of his ordinary curiosity. The military policeman who regulates the traffic through a village with all the dignity of a constable at the Bank has often the haziest notion of the name of the next village only a kilometre or two away, and when he has blandly explained to you that he is a "stranger in these parts" he obviously thinks that the last word has been said. And if you are wise it has. For if you persist in your inquiries the odds are that some confident friend will come up to his assistance and the net result of his well-meant instructions will be that you take a short cut leading you anything up to 10 miles out of your way.

This is no exaggerated or isolated case. Several times I have been misdirected as to a headquarters in a tiny village and over and over again I have found soldiers ignorant of the name of the battalion billeted in the adjoining fields....

Reform of ILEA

From the Leader of Westminster City Council
Sir, Your editorial, "A tale of two timetables" (August 27), suggesting that education reform in inner London should be relegated in the Government's priorities, is misplaced.

Such reform is long overdue. It is not a sop to Westminster or Wandsworth. It is simply extending parental choice and providing children with the standard of education they need. The Inner London Education Authority, with its poor results and excessive costs, has failed to do that. ILEA's administration costs are the highest in the country and in terms of exam results, out of 97 authorities, only two fare worse. Little wonder that this week's national MORI poll shows that only 23 per cent of parents are fully satisfied with the education their children receive.

Your leading article fails to recognise that, with the introduction of the uniform business rate, Westminster will be a grant-receiving authority. Our ratepayers will no longer be obliged to contribute to ILEA's precept. Overlooking this has led you to misunderstand the issue.

Reform of education and of local government finance are integral parts of the same issue, restoring the accountability of local government. As such, it is both necessary and sensible for them to run in tandem.

If they are separated, ILEA's massive overspending would account for £252 of the City of Westminster's projected community charge of £396. Over the past five years, ILEA has repeatedly demonstrated its refusal to curb its overspending, reduce its overblown administration and provide a standard of education that

London's parents want and their children deserve.

Yours faithfully,
SHIRLEY PORTER, Leader,
Westminster City Council,
Westminster City Hall,
Victoria Street, SW1,
August 27.

Clerical update

From his Honour Judge Stuart-White

Sir, I recently listened to two clergymen standing on the steps of a cathedral disputing, not how many angels could dance on the point of a pin, but how many clerical collars could be made from a single Fairy Liquid container.

Yours faithfully,
C. S. STUART-WHITE,
Triangle Farmhouse,
Far Forest,
Rock, Near Kidderminster,
Worcestershire.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE
August 31: The Princess of Wales this morning visited the outpatient unit of the Division of Psychiatry at the Southern General Hospital, Glasgow.

Her Royal Highness subsequently visited the Fossil Drug Project, Denmark Street, Fossilpark, Glasgow.

The Princess of Wales, attended by Miss Alexandra Loyd

and Commander Richard Aylard, RN, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
August 31: The Princess Royal, President of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, today attended the Town and Country Festival, National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh, Kenilworth, Warwickshire.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Edward Alwyn, actor and founder of Dulwich College, London, 1566; James Corbett, (Gentleman Jim), prize fighter, San Francisco, 1866; Edgar Rice Burroughs, writer, creator of Tarzan, Chicago, 1875.

DEATHS: Nicholas Breakspear, Pope Adrian IV, 1154-59; Anagni, Italy, 1159; Louis XIV of France, reigned 1643-1715; Versailles, 1715; Sir Richard Steele, essayist, Carmarthen, 1729; William Clark, explorer in the Pacific, St Louis, Missouri, 1838; Sir Richard Westmacott, sculptor, London, 1836; Samuel Taylor-Coleridge, composer, Croydon, Surrey, 1912; W W Jacobs, short story writer, London, 1943; Siegfried Sassoon, poet and novelist, Haysbury, Wilts, 1967; Françoise Mauriac, novelist, Paris, 1970.

Dinner

HM Government
Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Scotland, was host at a dinner held last night at 6 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh.

Gordonstoun School

Autumn Term at Gordonstoun School opens today with 471 boys and girls in the school. Ivan Huber is the guardian. The new boarding house, Plewlands House, is being opened at noon today by the Duchess of York. The Gordonstoun Prep School challenge weekend starts on Friday, October 2. The autumn dinner is at the Café Royal on October 16. *Kiss me, Kate* will be performed at St Christopher's on November 26. 27. 28; the carol service is on December 13 and term ends on Monday, December 14.

Royal engagements

The Duke of York, Patron of the Jubilee Sailing Trust, accompanied by the Duchess of York, sails on the *STS Lord Nelson* from Greenwich at 6.15; to London Bridge Pier at 7.10; and will attend a reception at London Bridge City.

Prince Edward, Chairman of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Project '87, will attend a reception and dinner in the City Chambers, Glasgow, at 6.45.

Prince and Princess Michael of Kent will visit Venice to attend the unveiling ceremony of Tintoretto's *Paradiso* in the Palazzo Ducale and will carry out engagements in connexion with "Save Venice" until September 7.

King's College School, Wimbledon

Autumn Term at King's College School, Wimbledon begins on September 8. The captain of school is Martin Moore and Robert Jenkins is vice-captain. There will be a game for old boys who left between 1960 and 1964 on Friday, September 18, and the OKC annual dinner will take place at King's College Hospital on Friday, November 20; details of both events can be obtained from the secretary of the club at the school. The annual meeting of the Corporation of KCS will take place at the school on Saturday, December 12. The 1987-89 Development Campaign was launched in May and work has already begun on the new theatre, Collyer Hall. As one of the associated fundraising events there will be a choral concert in the Queen Elizabeth Hall on December 8.

Science report

Poison may be causing some nervous diseases

By Beatrice Lacoste

Neurological disorders such as Parkinson's Disease, Alzheimer's Dementia and certain forms of paralysis may be due to the destruction of nervous cells by absorption of toxic substances.

An international team headed by Professor Peter Spencer from the Albert Einstein Medical College in New York drew its conclusions after investigating Guam disease, a condition that produces various neurological disorders in the Chamorro population of the islands of Guam and Rota. These populations suffered from the disease after the Second World War. A variety of symptoms were seen, such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a progressive disorder of adults stemming from the degeneration of nervous cells in the brain and the spinal cord. Alzheimer's Disease and Parkinson's Disease were also observed.

The nervous disorder and death rates were 50 to 100 times those for developed countries. But the subsequent decline of the disease after 1955, and the absence of any clear inherited or viral factors led the researchers to look for environmental agents that might be responsible.

Almost immediately they suspected cyanide, the highly toxic seed of the false palm which was used in food and traditional medicine and had been consumed in large quantities during the war because of food shortages.

The population made flour out of these seeds. In this flour the researchers isolated an unusual non-protein amino acid called BMAA, which was later found to have certain neurotoxic properties.

Dr Spencer also investigated another plant-derived non protein amino acid called BOAA, found in chick peas. After testing BOAA on monkeys for four years Dr Spencer and his team were able to show that there is a direct correlation between this amino acid and neurological disorders.

The researchers concluded that these two chemically related amino acids BOAA and BMAA both induce a degeneration of the nervous cells.

This discovery points to an environmental cause in some nervous disorders. There is, however, a sting in the tail of the study.

The islands' inhabitants changed their diet after the war, and some moved to the United States, but nevertheless some developed the disease 20 years later.

Prof Spencer concludes that this is due to a "slow" toxin, whose effects are exacerbated by the natural loss of neurons through ageing. Parkinson's Disease could be one result.

However, the scientists point out that this hypothesis does not exclude other causes such as viral or hereditary factors in neurological diseases.

First National Securities

Base rate

First National Securities Limited announces that with effect from 1st September 1987 its base rate for lending will be 11%.

First National Securities Ltd, First National House, College Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 1FB. Telephone 01-861 1313.

Archaeology

Norman castle found at school

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

A previously unknown Norman castle has been found at Repton in Derbyshire, partly under the buildings of Repton School.

It probably dates to the period of anarchy in the mid-twelfth century when the supporters of the Empress Maud were fighting those of King Stephen for control of England.

What has been found is part of the castle ditch, a massive cut some 35 feet (10.6 metres) wide and 13 feet (over 4m) deep, running more than 80 feet (25m) in from the old bank of the River Trent.

The sloping and asymmetrical sides of the ditch and its curved plan, swinging round from south to east, suggest "a massive late eleventh or early twelfth century military work, enclosing a small area that probably had a timber tower on a mound", according to Professor Martin Biddle, who is directing the excavations.

Four phases of cutting have been elucidated, of which the first, a huge V-shaped ditch with a flattened bottom in bedrock, contains so little infill that it cannot have been open for very long.

The first recent produced a V-shaped bottom with a gentle slope to the east, the interior of the putative castle, than the west, both slopes were too steep to climb without ladders and would have been defensively effective.

In the fill of this phase were found three carved stones from an Anglo-

Saxon monument. They are architectural sculpture with a vertical strip, which Professor Biddle feels may be an early example of "stringcourse" moulding, flanked on either side by typical ninth-century birds and perhaps animals under arcades.

The stones presumably come from one of the buildings of the period when Repton was the mausoleum of the Saxon kings of Mercia.

A second recent created a deep U-shaped bottom to the ditch, and the fill included a shield boss of the type seen on the Bayeux Tapestry, many horse bones, and pottery of mid-twelfth century date.

The third recent and the final infill had pottery from the end of the century or slightly later and the obliteration of the partly silted ditch probably took place when Repton became an Augustinian Priory after 1159.

Professor Biddle said that the ditch, originally interpreted as a *naust* or drydock for Viking ships moored on the Trent during the occupation of 873-874 (*The Times*, December 21 1985) when it was first located, could now be seen as one arm of a defensive enclosure, cutting off the northeast tip of the natural bluff between the Repton Brook and the old course of the Trent.

"The most economical interpretation is to see all four phases of the ditch as connected with the castle", he said.

The main problem at present is that there is no known documentary reference to a castle at Repton.

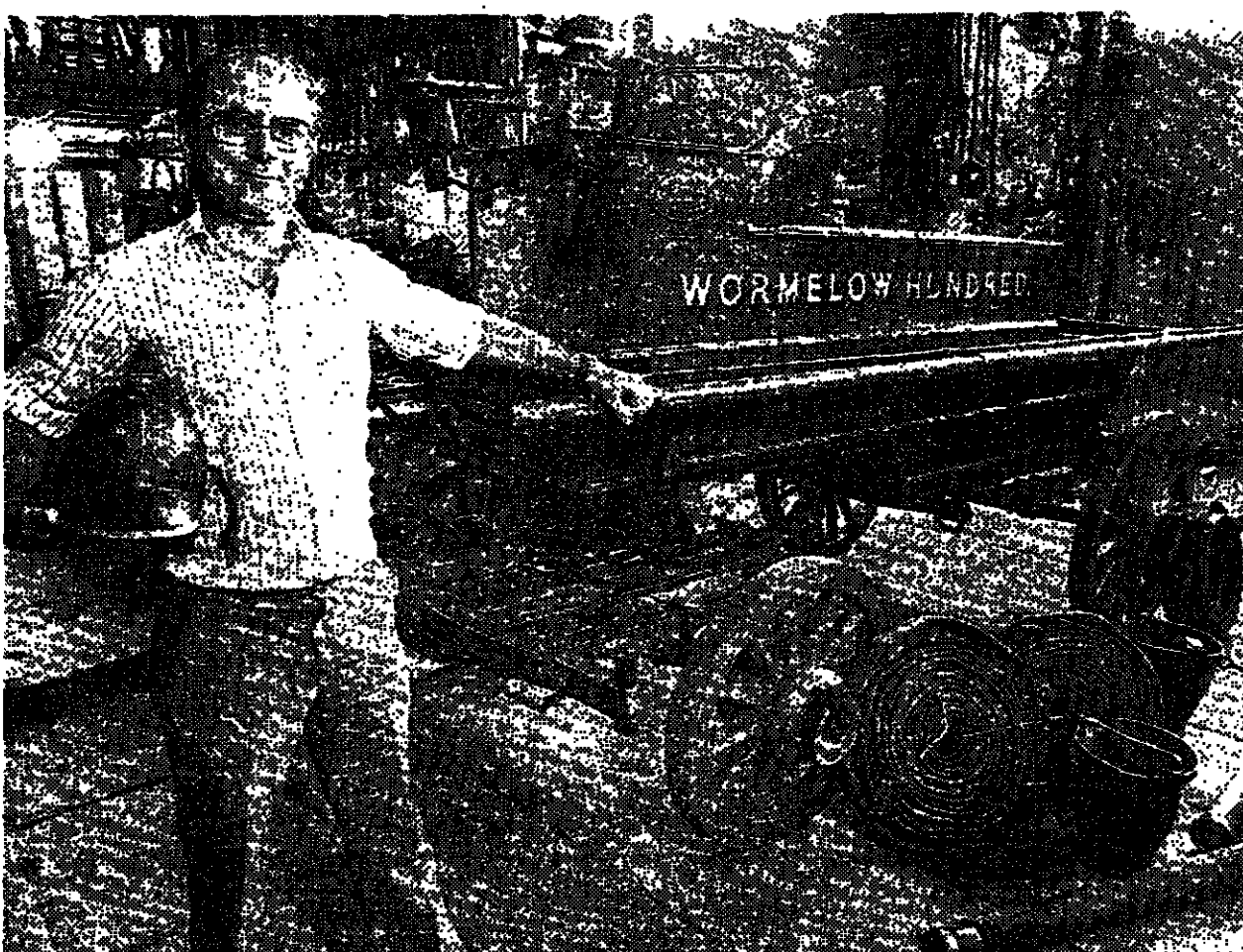
On the other hand, during the period of anarchy the region would have been under the control of Ranulf II, Earl of Chester, who from 1129 to 1153 was one of the most powerful lords in England.

The hinge of his power when the civil war broke out in 1139 lay along the upper Trent in south Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire and northern Leicestershire, according to a recent study published by the Royal Historical Society. As long ago as 1895 the historian J H Round argued that Ranulf wanted to link his strongholds at Lincoln and Chester "by a chain of fortresses".

Professor Biddle speculates that the Repton fortification "was in origin an adorning castle which was slighted and levelled as part of the general destruction of unlicensed castles at the beginning of Henry II's reign of 1154".

He suggests also that a deep V-shaped ditch found in 1979 at the western end of the known Viking enclosure of 873-874 may have been part of an outer bailey of this castle, enclosing the church of St Wystan within the defences as the castle chapel.

Testing his hypothesis will be difficult, however, since almost the entire line of the possible enclosure lies under the graveyard or the buildings of Repton School, but Professor Biddle hopes that some information may be gained during the fifteenth and final season at Repton next year.



Mr Peter Kirby with the 156-year-old horse-drawn fire engine he is reluctantly selling (Photograph: Philip Dunn)

Fire engine answers a call to the auction sale

A handsome red, green and gold leaf fire-engine, complete with leather suction and delivery hoses, and leather buckets - in good condition - is being offered for sale next week.

The 156-year-old horse-drawn machine, the Wormelow Hundred, is at present the prize exhibit in a private rural crafts museum at Whitchurch, near Ross-on-Wye.

It was the first of more than 400 farm and village memorabilia collected by Mr Alfred Kirby, who died three years ago aged 84.

His son, Mr Peter Kirby, who runs the family agricultural equipment making company, has reluctantly decided to sell the collection.

"I only wish I were able to devote more time to perpetuating my father's interest. But owing to my expanding business commitments I am unable to do justice to the museum."

So the museum pieces are to be taken to the Three Counties Showground at Malvern and auctioned on September 12.

"Among the relics we shall be offering are a 19th century threshing machine in working order, wagons, carts, harnesses, a rare hay press, ploughs, harvest, haymaking and blacksmiths' equipment, cheese presses, butter churns, butter moulds, hand tools, and old-fashioned farmhouse items", Mr Simon Bruton, auctioneer, said.

"Most of the treasures have come from the farms and villages of Herefordshire and the surrounding counties and provide a fascinating backward glimpse of rural life in the horse age."

"It is a remarkable collection because it is the labour of love of just one man".

Mr Bruton said it was impossible to estimate how much the collection, or any individual item, might make.

Crowning glories on show

Replicas of the British crown jewels are on display in Bonn, the capital of West Germany, for the first time.

The copies are said to be so good that only an expert could distinguish them from the originals.

Some 45 pieces, including crowns, rings, scepters, armbands, cutlery and medals will be on display for a week in Bonn's City Hall.

The exhibit is part of Oxford Week, an annual celebration of a cultural exchange program between Bonn and Oxford, now in its 40th year.

The original crown jewels have been safely stored in the Tower of London since 1661. They were removed briefly during the Second World War to keep them safe from a possible German invasion.

Bridge Festival results

The two-day summer festival of the English Bridge Union concluded at the Torquay Leisure Centre on Sunday with the main teams championship for the Four Stars trophy.

This event is traditionally split into two finals with the leading eight teams in the "A" final and the teams qualifying in ninth to 16th places in the "B" final. The remaining teams contest the Brighton Bowl.

Results:
"A" Section: R Smolksi, P D Jourdain, Dr A P Sowter (London, Notts, Wales) 95;
2 M J Allen, Miss P Davis (Somerset); D F Huggett, S Preston (Hants) 83;
3 R A Cliff, B J Callaghan, D A L Burn (London); J Dhondy (Middlesex) 81;
4 H Harding (N E), Mrs R Bavin, J R T Williams, B Claridge (Oxon) 80.

"B" Section:
1 G Liggins, G Hartley, W Whittaker, J Silverstone (London) 107;
2 Mr & Mrs P N Lee (Surrey); Mr & Mrs P Williams (N W) 82;
3 P Glusker, R Williams, Chapman, D J Lockyer (Somerset) 70;
4 E C Halcro, J H Jones (Wilts); Mr & Mrs P G Hobbs (Glouce) 68.

Brighton Bowl:
1 A MacNair, T Rees, Mr & Mrs D Scott Jones 188;
2 A Stephenson, S Matthews, P Garner-Gray, Mrs M Pitts 182;
3 D Patterson, M Stuckings, T Goldsmith, J R Williams 180.

Later he became senior orthopaedic surgeon at the Royal Berkshire Hospital Reading. Besides his work on joint replacement surgery, he was also known as a fine teacher, whose influence on a younger generation of surgeons was considerable.

He came dramatically to the attention of the general public

by his work on grafting articular cartilage led to a series of papers. He also researched in the USA and Canada on a travelling fellowship of the British and American Orthopaedic Association.

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by

THE ARTS

Bluffly Bruno

Moonlighting from *Moonlighting*, Bruce Willis starred in *Bruce Willis - The Return of Bruno* (BBC2). Bruno Radolini, one gleaned from the *Radio Times*, was the "semi-legendary, semi-comatose" forgotten giant of pop music, who "took popular music by the throat and all but strangled it". In support of this mildly engaging spoof, a minor galaxy of rock stars offered goblets of personal reminiscence with the self-consciously straight faces of *Call My Bluff* contestants. Here was Ringo Starr declaring that without

TELEVISION

Bruno there would have been no Beatles. Elton John confided that Bruno had been instrumental in naming "Benny and the Jets".

These biographical bones were fleshed out with competent period reconstructions of the forgotten star in the progressive phases of his alleged career: a sweaty New Jersey club in the early 1960s; a mop-top television show; a ranting, crazily hirsute appearance at Woodstock; a psychedelic phantasmagoria. The trouble was that one kept remembering entire scenes from *This is Spinal Tap*, the spoof "rockumentary" which took a similar view of rock hagiography but with far greater wit and panache and, crucially, with a story-line to hang it on. *The Return of Bruno* was like an overladen executive jet that made repeated charges down the runway without ever succeeding in becoming airborne. The deadpan clichés of Bruno's chequered career needed more detail to make a character of him beyond the bald information that he was destructive: we did not actually see him chuck a single television set from a single hotel window.

It was only in the last 10 minutes that the penny (or the fat cheque) finally dropped. The lengthy extract from Bruno's comeback concert was actually from Bruce's launch concert. When he said "This one's from the album" he meant it — the album exists — although why one should prefer his version of "Comin' Right Up" to anyone else's must remain a mystery. The satire had evaporated, leaving the tongue frozen in the cheek.

Martin Cropper

Infinitude of suggestion

GALLERIES

Balla the Futurist
Riverside StudiosAt the Sign of the Dial
Usher Gallery, Lincoln

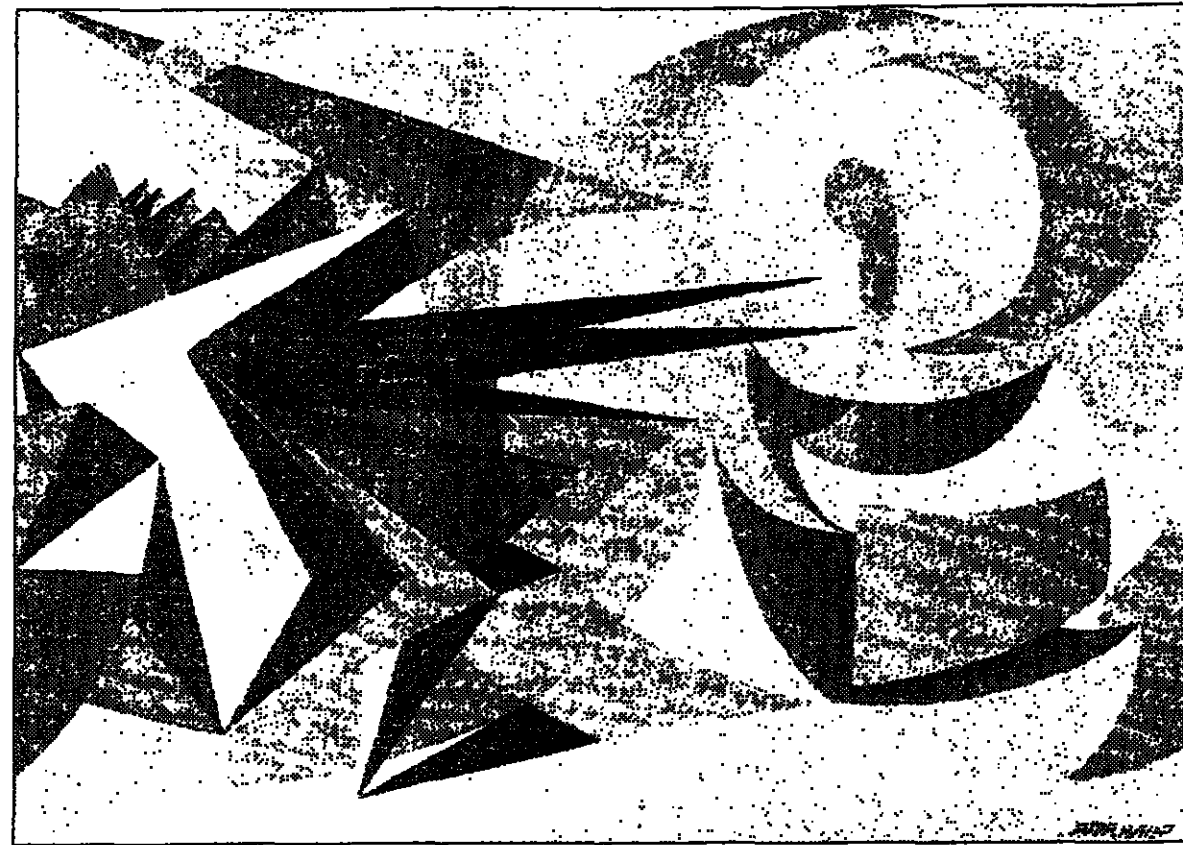
The problem is often to detach the individual from his surroundings. When we think of Futurists, in this country at any rate, we tend to think first of an inchoate collection of images evoking speed and violence; then of Marinetti, who was not an artist himself (not even very much of a creative writer), but a man of ideas, an organizer and a publicist; then of a group of barely distinguishable painters and sculptors who were all, from about 1910 to 1918, going in roughly the same direction.

If we distinguish any individual from the group, it is probably Boccioni, who not only produced in his sculpture of a man walking, *Unique Forms of Continuity in Space*, one of the most famous images of the period, but also had the ill-fortune (so good for posterity) of getting killed at an early age in the First World War.

But Giacomo Balla? Though there was a major exhibition of his work in Paris in the early Seventies, no one seems able to remember when (if ever) there has been an important show devoted to him in Britain. He figured, it is true, in the Royal Academy's vast, and vastly successful, *Post-Impressionism*, and many visitors may still remember his iridescent Divisionist works there, especially the extraordinary three-part townscape *The Working Man's Day*. But that was by definition before he became a Futurist, and in all likelihood the works included in the valuable new show at the Riverside Studios until September 27, Balla the Futurist, will be totally unfamiliar.

We may recall, however, that Balla too produced at least one universally familiar image in every history of modern art, the "centipede" dog whose movement along the pavement is evoked by means of a multiple image obviously derived from the stop-motion photographs of Muybridge and Marey.

That was a transitional work, somewhere between the Divisionist painting and total abstraction. How total Balla's abstraction could be, once he had embraced the principle, is clearly demonstrated at the Riverside by such astonishing works as *Iridescent Interpenetration No 4 - Study of Light*. What is particularly astonishing about them is that, if one were asked offhand to date them, one



Giacomo Balla's *Pessimism and Optimism*: the precise drift may seem to be elusive but the emotion is clear enough

would almost certainly place them in the Sixties, the Op Art heyday of Vasarely and Bridget Riley, rather than their actual date of c. 1913, only a year after *Dynamism of a Dog on a Leash*.

Perhaps fortunately for his reputation at the time and for the rest of his life (he died in 1958), Balla's approach as a Futurist was not usually so uncompromising. Most of his abstracts had a definite programme, generally indicated by the title. The arrow-like forms and curved trajectories of his iconography would convey the idea of movement and speed even without titles like *Mercury Passing in Front of the Sun Seen through a Telescope or Line of Speed + Forms - Noise*.

We might be forgiven for not getting the precise drift of *Pessimism and Optimism* (1923), though its emotional colouring is clear enough, and once we are told that a group of sketches and studies are for a sculpture called *Boccioni's First the Ideal*, if not the precise form, becomes crystal-clear.

Most intriguing of all, and considered by Balla one of his major works, is the large oil *Battleship + Widow + Wind* (which surprisingly enough comes from a private collection in London). Here the irregular shapes are quite abstract but richly expressive:

one might guess at the significance of battleship grey, and the dark blues shading to black might possibly suggest a widow's veil billowing in the breeze (though not perhaps quite what the catalogue quaintly calls "a handsome sailor with his instrument of war tossed by the wind"), but finally the painting captures as effectively as anything in the 20th century an infinitude of suggestion untrammelled by representation but still kept firmly in the control of the artist.

The evidence of this show (which moves in October to its originating gallery, the Museum of Modern Art, Oxford) all goes to support the feeling that Balla may in the last analysis prove artistically the most formidable of all the Futurists.

Another artist who has remained difficult to separate from his artistic context and consider all by himself is Charles Haslewood Shannon. Even the show which marks the fiftieth anniversary of his death, *At the Sign of the Dial* (at the Usher Gallery, Lincoln, until September 13), is significantly subtitled "Charles Haslewood Shannon and His Circle". The circle included first and foremost Shannon's lifelong companion and frequent collaborator Ricketts, as well as several other artists of similar interests, such as Sturge Moore and Lucien Pissarro, who contributed to

their luxurious artistic magazine *The Dial* and worked for their private Vale Press productions, or, as with Pissarro's *Eragny Press*, were inspired by them to further the Nineties revival of fine book-making.

In or out of this context, Shannon himself remains a rather shadowy figure. Though he was the elder (indeed, only eight years older than Balla, though they could hardly belong to more diverse worlds of art), Ricketts was clearly the dominant intelligence and the more individual stylist of the partnership. Probably Shannon was the better (and certainly the more fluent) painter in oils, but his large paintings of water-nymphs and vaguely Renaissance ladies admiring their own reflections seem now a little characterless and pallid.

It is a pity that the Lincoln show does not include any of his smaller painted works, such as the numerous delicate and formally inventive fans on silk or vellum. But it does at least do full justice to his monochromatic lithographs and the colour woodcuts, which though fragile in their effect have a curious ability to capture the imagination and stick in the memory. Very likely Shannon will always be remembered as Ricketts's other half, but his own slight yet subtle gifts seem well worth recording.

John Russell Taylor

Emphasis on real talents

PROMENADE CONCERTS

Loose Tubes
Albert Hall/Radio 3

They began with "The Last Word", a misty reggae tune, and ended with "Arriving", a mournful gospel piece; in between times, the 21 members of Loose Tubes played down the Goonish humour in favour of a concentration on the musical virtues that led to their invitation to become only the second jazz-derived ensemble to appear at the Proms, 15 years after the Soft Machine took the same stage in a rather more solemn mood.

As the bust of Sir Henry Wood — clad for the event in a Loose Tubes sweatshirt — gazed down, the band played perhaps as well as at any time since their formation three years ago. The presentation of 10 tunes in 90 minutes, with comparatively little time given to badinage and leg-stretching between items, led to a more concentrated performance than is sometimes their wont, balancing composition and improvisation in perfect proportions and inspiring a series of first-rate solos.

John Harborne started it off with a forthright trombone declaration on "The Last Word", a composition whose Caribbean inflexion perhaps led to its selection in recognition of that other cultural extravaganza, the Notting Hill Carnival, simultaneously coming to a climax a couple of miles away on the other side of Hyde Park. Wearing only swimming trunks, a T-shirt and sun-glasses, Harborne was

followed to the microphone by the saxophonist Mark Lockheart, in a grey business suit — some indication of the band's obsession with visual as well as musical variety.

Steve Berry's "Mister Zee", a pleasantly ruminative dedication to the band Weather Report, set John Parricelli's energetic guitar against spiky trumpets, willow flute and pneumatic trombones. The staccato surprises of Eddie Parker's "Sobun Brak" led unexpectedly into a charmingly straight but no doubt deeply ironic Las Vegas-style version of "Can't Take My Eyes Off You", followed by Django Bates's "Suite William", a jigsaw puzzle of blaring ensemble chords and swaying South African jive which opened up to permit the composer a piano improvisation of tumbling eloquence, sensitively supported by Berry's bass and the drums of Steve Argüelles.

The evening's finest scoring grazed Berry's "Blue", whose pastoral mood prompted from Julian Argüelles's soprano saxophone a solo of utmost poise and clarity, constantly advancing at unexpected angles. Bates's "Accepting Suites from Strangers" prompted an outbreak of jitterbugging and slam-dancing, spreading quickly from the musicians to the promenaders. Chris Bachelor's "Sticklebacks" caught the joyful quality of highlife music, inspiring an incisive saxophone statement from Steve Buckley, and wonderfully liquid baritone guitar figures from Parricelli. By this point, heading for a celebratory finale, there was no doubt that Loose Tubes had added the Proms to their list of conquests.

Richard Williams

RPO/Handley
Albert Hall/Radio 3

One way of analyzing Elgar's output could be termed the "impulse and fingerprints" test. His creative impulse ran strongly from youth to maturity, then declined sharply after three catastrophes: Alice Elgar's death, the Great War and Elgar's realization that changing musical styles had rendered his art isolated and anachronistic. On the other hand, the unmistakable fingerprints which we call Elgarian are hardly present in the youthful works but, having once emerged, remained with Elgar to his last compositions.

The 1917 ballet score *The Sanguine Fan* is a classic case. The fingerprints are there — the surging sequences, the wistful arabesques, the virtuosic orchestral shading — but the creative impulse is equally clearly waning. Somehow the score is not galvanized by the imperious purposefulness (like it or loathe it) that marks, say, the First Symphony.

Yet perhaps this very un-

case contributes to the work's interest. Elgar seems to be recalling not just classic 19th-century dance forms but also to be putting his own style in quotation marks. It was excellent programming to couple Elgar with Rachmaninov's *Symphonic Dances*: his last orchestral score, with its more explicit self-quotation, its weirdly disjointed waltz and its agonized (but finally triumphant?) references to Russian Orthodox chants.

One could have predicted that Vernon Handley would give the Elgar just about as persuasive a performance as is possible. But he also did Rachmaninov proud, catching the nervous edginess of the music after an opening which was a little soggy in rhythm and short of devilment.

In between came Walton's flawed but pleasant *Sinfonia Concertante*, which Handley mostly interpreted in a good humour, broad manner. The piano writing gives the soloist little chance to shine, but Kathryn Stott's bold articulation seemed just right.

Richard Morrison

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HELENA INTERNATIONAL

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A fireman in Hollywood

Chris Peachment meets the young British director Ben Bolt, whose feature debut, *The Big Town*, opens in London this week

Ben Bolt: chief interest lies in the area of character



For a young British director, getting his first film off the launch-pad probably will not be the toughest move of a career in an industry which sputters into life every few years, then dies for a few more years, and indeed could scarcely be said to exist in any sense by which we understand the term "industry". But it is tough enough; and the classic reward for most British directors with three or four British movies under their belts is a TWA ticket to LA.

It is understandable: there is the common language, which means that Hollywood producers do not have to hire an interpreter, and there is the love of a certain art form whose *sons et oris* is of course Hollywood. But with many British directors it is hard to escape the suspicion that their British efforts were simply a calling-card.

For a young British director to make his feature film debut in the States, with a Hollywood-based project, is virtually unprecedented. Ben Bolt (who is the son of Robert Bolt) had not thought of that, although he is perfectly honest about how his break came about. After some two years in the States, touring around a compilation of his work from British television, including a very fine film, *Rainy Day Women* by David Pirie, and gaining some valuable experience on *Hill Street Blues*, he got a call one night from David Putnam, now head of Columbia, asking if he would take over the shooting of *The Big Town*, which opens in London at the Leicester Square Theatre on Friday. The original director, Harold Becker, probably best known here for having directed *The Onion Field*, had had serious disagreements with the producer and had taken a walk after some three days' shooting.

"I read the script," says Bolt, "liked it, met Matt

Dillon the next day, then met the producer the next and started shooting within two days. I would have liked a month or so to think about it all, but Putnam was anxious for the cast not to lose their morale. So I came in as fireman."

The story is a cross between the classic gambling movies such as *The Cincinnati Kid*, with craps as the game providing the tension here, and the other story about the kid from the sticks taking on the big town at its own game and learning much about life in the process (for "life" read "women"). Easily the weakest part of the movie is the dialogue, which seems to have been written by someone clever enough to know his gambling movies but not clever enough to know that he knows nothing of life. But Bolt has a very good let-out on that score, since he was not allowed to change anything when he took over. As he readily admits, the chief attraction lay in a superlative cast.

Matt Dillon is only 23, but has been playing leads since he was 14. "Frightening," isn't it? says Bolt. Even more frightening is Diane Lane as the *femme fatale*, who is only 21 but has been in films since she was six. But most frightening of all, and the best performance in a very well performed film, is Tommy Lee Jones as the man who runs the most dangerous crap game in town. He has a face like the dark side of the moon anyway, but when he stares down his number two into obeying orders, he looks like the Prince of Darkness.

"Strangely enough he is a very moral and upright man," says Bolt. "He runs a ranch as well as acts, and is much respected. He took on the role largely because he despises gambling and knows its seductiveness. He once had a reputation for being difficult

as an actor, but actually he was the easiest of them all."

Also in the film, lending additional weight to its mid-range cast of heavyweights, is Bruce Dern as the man who hires Matt Dillon to play craps for him. Dern has the most sulphurous eyes in Hollywood, eyes that were built to play jealous cuckolds and Vietnam veterans; in this film they are blind and permanently shrouded in dark glasses. It must be an ironic joke.

"No, I don't think so. Bruce is not self-conscious about his virtues. He just wanted the role for his big speech about how he was blinded. The extraordinary thing about him is that, for each take, he will come up with something different. Every time; incredible versatility."

It becomes clear, from the way that Bolt talks of the performance, that his chief interest in any drama lies in the area of character. "That's true, I never met anyone that I didn't find of interest. No matter how unsympathetic, I like to understand them. De Niro in *Raging Bull* is the perfect example of a man I probably wouldn't like, but was nonetheless fascinated by."

Probably because of this, the crap games in the film are very successful, since they operate on the sound principle that it is not necessary to understand the game, only to sympathize with the people playing it.

It is hard to know what Harold Becker would have done with the film but, to judge by *The Onion Field*, it would have probably adhered to a much more realistic aesthetic and would undoubtedly have been much darker in tone than Bolt's version. What is he doing now? "Well, he is currently working on a film starring Cher," says Bolt. "Funny old world, isn't it?"

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FASHION by Liz Smith



On the scent of a legend

The triumphant tale of a femme fatale who turned into the tough dictator of taste

What ingredients are in a bottle of Chanel No 5? Clouds of jasmine and a whiff of vanilla, certainly. But the one essential essence in this subtle, sexy scent that is instantly recognized by most women, and men, is not one that is ever listed among the 128 ingredients that we are told went into its concoction.

It is the distillation of pearls and heavy gold chains, of satin bows and a little black dress, of an immaculately pared-down suit, braided and gilt-buttoned, that adds up to the rich, assured aura that wafts invisibly on the air.

The story of Chanel No 5, the triumphant tale of a femme fatale who became a lady, a demimondaine who turned into the

tough dictator of 20th-century taste, is encapsulated in a small retrospective exhibition which opens at Sotheby's in London on Saturday.

Created for Coco Chanel in 1921, No 5 is the legacy of her liaison in Biarritz the summer before with the Grand Duke Dimitri Pavlovitch. Through her Russian lover, Chanel met the perfumier Ernest Beaux, whose father had worked for the Tsar. The story goes that Beaux was blending perfumes for Cote and allowed her to sample them. The fifth one she sniffed, she loved. It became No 5, fashion's first designer fragrance, which secured for Chanel her fortune, and is still the world's best-selling scent to

The new face of No 5: the French actress Carole Bouquet; and left, the original flacon of Chanel's legendary scent

day. An awesome 10 million bottles of it, a tidal wave of extravagance, are sold around the world each year.

The exhibition starts with an invitation to step inside Chanel's private apartment above her rue Cambon salons, with their copper walls, bronze animals and Coromandel screens, where she had been installed by her English lover, Arthur "Boy" Capel.

In the first room of the exhibition a table is laid for dinner with Chanel's favourite white linen that she ordered to be rinsed in tea. The napkins are pleated like one of her blouses, and her

monogrammed black and white china and simple Baccarat crystal set out as if for her favourite dish, a soufflé.

The exhibition moves on to sketches and clothes rounded-up from private collections and museums. There are Chanel designs dating from 1912 until 1939, when she closed her salon for the War, and from her comeback in 1954 until her death, aged 87, in 1971. A decade is skipped as the exhibition moves to 1983, when the House of Chanel came alive again under Karl Lagerfeld.

Chanel's signature jewels, the

ropes or chokers of pearls and chains that she wore by the dozen, mixed with baroque emeralds and rubies, have their place next in the exhibition. She used to pull apart and remake the real jewellery lavished on her by her lovers, and copied them for the costume jewellery that she was the first to make chic. By the time the exhibition climaxes in the tiny

Creative force: far left, Coco Chanel photographed in her apartment by Horst in 1925; above, wearing one of her own classic braided suits

cabine dedicated to that essence of Chanel's style, No 5, you are left in no doubt about its scent, which Coco Chanel liked to diffuse in an antique bergère lamp in her apartments. Little persuasion will be needed to splash out on this fragrant legend in its new, more functional guise: of Eau de Parfum (from £25 for a 50ml bottle or spray).

No 5, like all of Chanel's creations, rocked established notions of the beauty business, and made revolutionary use of modern aldehydes. Its square-cut, bevelled crystal bottle with its simple black and white label, has never been bettered and features in the Museum of Modern Art in New York. The packaging has been re-created for each successive Chanel scent—No 22 in 1928 and No 19 in 1972; Gardenia and Cuir de Russie (neither of which is available here); Cristalle, Chanel's only non-perfume strength fragrance created in 1977, and the most recent success, Coco.

If a scent can have sex appeal, Chanel No 5 has it, and had it long before Marilyn Monroe confided coquettishly that it was all she wore in bed. With that remark, Monroe became the first famous beauty to embody the most celebrated scent in the world, and unwittingly gave her services free to boosting its sales. The House of Chanel was not slow to pick up her

cue. Owned by the Wertheimer family since 1924, when they added Parfums Chanel to their bourgeois fragrance business founded in 1863, Chanel No 5 has a long promotional association with beautiful women. Suzy Parker and Jean Shrimpton were the model stars through the Fifties and Sixties; in the Seventies, the cool, platinum beauty of Catherine Deneuve. The new face of No 5 is the French actress, Carole Bouquet. A femme fatale very much in a 1980s mould, she made her film debut in Buñuel's last film, *That Obscure Object of Desire*, but is probably best known here for her part in the Bond film *For Your Eyes Only*.

Carole Bouquet is the sort of free-thinking Parisienne whom Coco Chanel would have admired. A green-eyed classic beauty with a sleek mane of dark hair, her tastes in fashion are simple. "I feel lost wearing anything fussy. I forget who I am," she says. "No frills, no fake flowers, no heavy perfume." It sounded like sacrilege, coming from the star just signed-up to sell No 5's new Eau de Parfum. "When I signed the contract," she says, "Jacques Poige, who adapted the Eau de Parfum from the original, made a special No 5, a little lighter, more floral. It belongs to me."

Sotheby's exhibition, *Chanel by Chanel*, runs from Saturday to September 13. Opening times: Monday to Saturday, 9.30am-4.30pm; Sunday, noon-4pm. Admission is free, but donations will be collected for St Mary's Save the Baby Fund.

Today's Elaine simply has to dash

Gaily into Rutslip Gardens
Runs the red electric train
With a thousand Tias and Pardons
Daintily alights Elaine;

Well cut Windsmoor flapping
lightly
Jacquard scarf of mauve and green
Hiding hair which, Friday night
Delicately drowns in Drene

In the decades since John Benjamin crystallized Windsmoor's over-the-hill image in his 1954 poem "Middlesex", Elaine and hundreds like her, now all of a certain age, have ensured the survival of the household name which they saw flashing in neon above Piccadilly Circus in the 1940s.

In the past year however, the vision of Elaine, "the bobby-soxer fresh complexioned with Inuvua", has been wiped from our consciousness by a new heroine. Sophisticated and obviously engaged in a fast-paced life, this new customer, her well-cut Windsmoor lying, is almost too busy to stand still to be photographed for the company's latest advertising campaign, in which she stars. Her skirt has been hitched above her knees or is worn dramatically long — no half measures for today's Elaine. The Jacquard scarf has been replaced by a rather larky hat designed by Kirsten Woodward. And the response from admirers to her new wardrobe has swung Windsmoor's profits upwards to its recent record of more than £3 million.

Windsmoor was among the first to see the gap in the market for a more useful, less expensive line. Back in 1979 it launched Planet to provide career women with well-edited separates, but the label made little impact on the fashionable until, with its older sister Windsmoor, Planet was given its recent injection of style and a sharpened image. The position in the market of the company's two labels measures Windsmoor against Jaeger or Alexon, and Planet against Principles.

Much of the credit for the company's rejuvenation



Above: Black and white dog-tooth tweed jacket, £369; matching short skirt, £255. Windsmoor. Tweed hat, £45.50, Kirsten Woodward for Windsmoor. All from Dickens & Jones, Regent Street, W1; Solihull, Harrods; Harvey Nichols, SW1

Right: Black and white dog-tooth check jacket, £105; short skirt, £49. Windsmoor. Feathered hat, £51.50, Kirsten Woodward for Windsmoor. Slade gloves, £38.50, Dents for Windsmoor. Hat, gloves, from London stores only. Suit from Fenwick, Brant Cross; Windsmoor; Newcastle; Debenhams; House of Fraser; major stores; Lewis stores; Barlatts



must go to James Green, great nephew of the firm's founder, Lionel Green, who was appointed last year as marketing director. "There is a limit to how long you can survive with the same customers," he says. "We are not aiming at the really young, but to the modern, youthful 40-year-old."

It also helped Windsmoor that fashion itself suddenly grew up. Even the young no longer want to look like waifs, but confident, adult women. The talent of top photographers, an accomplished fashion stylist and models were tapped to achieve

Windsmoor's current image. It has to be said that even though the design team started to pick up the fashion signals being transmitted by the smarter international designers (influences from Chanel and Valentino are most noticeable) the clothes are helped considerably by the addition of clever accessories. For example, a simple jersey suit, worn loose and easy-fitting by anyone less than slim, instantly achieves a sharper elegance when cinched by a deep belt, its skirt shortened and worn with dark matt tights.

With such simple details

playing a major role in achieving the contemporary look, a small range of accessories has been commissioned to sell alongside Windsmoor and Planet clothes in London stores, like Selfridges, Dickens and Jones, Harrods, Harvey Nichols.

There are gauntlet-length suede gloves by Dents for £38.50, sunglasses by Cutler & Gross, leather belts by Osprey, and the essential high court shoes and flat boots. At £35 and £75 respectively, these last are a real bargain. Adding most impact are the

hats commissioned from Kirsten Woodward, priced from £36.

Following the company's flotation on the stock market last year plans for expansion are already under way. A tie-up with the Italian jeans manufacturer Super Riffe means a move into a younger market and the launch of a group of high street shops peddling that sporty Italian "paninari" uniform of denim, Argyle socks and loafers. The first has just opened in The Plaza centre in Oxford Street. Others follow in Hampstead, Kingston, Guildford and Solihull.

Lobster and lace, guaze ruffles, grouse and plenty of bubbles, both the champagne and pink satin kind, are on the menu when foodies and fashion followers converge on McCoy's Restaurant in Saddlebridge, North Yorkshire, on September 14. Bruce Oldfield, brought up in Durham and a pupil at Ripon Grammar School nearby, is returning north to stage a fashion show in aid of Dr Barnardo's at the gastronomic shrine run by the brothers Peter, Tom and Eugene McCoy.

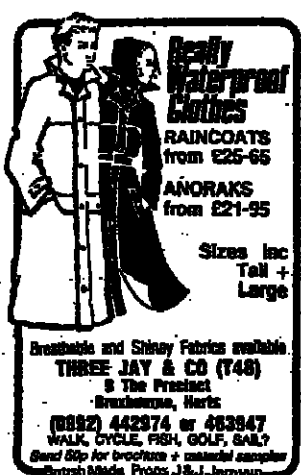
At £150 a ticket, Peter

Storm troupers

As Richard Branson's Virgin empire expanded over the years to include movie-making, publishing, night-clubs and an airline, he often suggested teasingly that he would like to open a model agency, but wondered if any girls would join. Ho, ho. Well, now he has. London's newest agency was opened by Sarah Dorkas six weeks ago with Branson's backing but without the obvious Virgin connection in its name. Financed by Branson's private Voyager company, it is simply called Storm.

A house in South Kensington, once the home of W. S. Gilbert, and HQ of Branson's property group, has been the temporary haven for Sarah Dorkas's Storm girls; now Branson has bought the company a building of its own.

A schoolfriend of Branson's sister, and with six years' experience booking models at Laraine Ashton's agency, Sarah Dorkas has succeeded in increasing her portfolio of girls from four to 30. Some are international stars like Talisa Soto or Brigitte Nielsen Stallone; other Storm models, however, are mere schoolgirls, like Miranda. Just 14 (and a half) and a lanky 5ft 10in, she was spotted in her school uniform by a Storm scout and signed up.



PEOPLE

In the best of taste

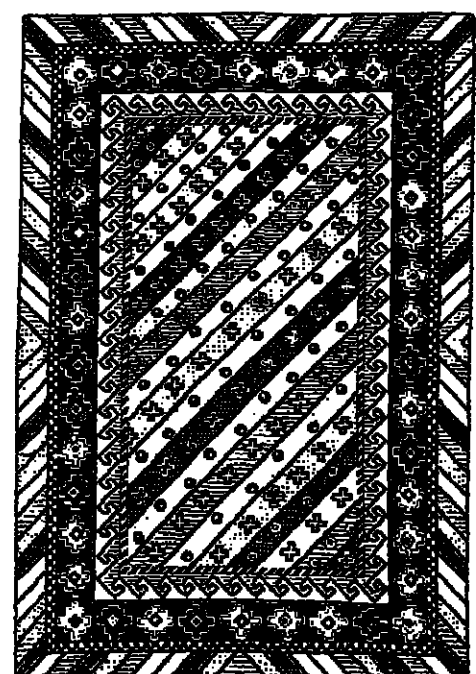
McCoy promises to serve up a memorable event. The parade of Bruce Oldfield's autumn collection includes a preview of his new lingerie line for Charms, which reaches major stores in October. The prizes to be raffled over coffee and McCoy's home-made truffles include two Nanking porcelain plates donated by Singapore-based Mike Hatcher, one of the divers for the porcelain treasure, a vintage red tele-

phone box; "the smallest room in your house" (her words) done up by decorator Nina Campbell; and a Shetland pony presented by Yorkshire-born trainer Mick Easterby.

Even McCoy's competitors are joining in the fun. Chef Raymond Blanc has booked a table for the show and donated a raffle prize of dinner for two at his Oxfordshire establishment, le Manoir aux Quat Saisons.

For reservations contact McCoy's Restaurant, Cleveland Terrace, Saddlebridge, Northallerton, N. Yorkshire (tel 068 982671).

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THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN



BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Returns only

THEATRE LONDON

★ **AS IS:** William M Hoffman play from New York about AIDS; with George Costigan as the victim and David Fielder his former lover. Half Moon Theatre, 213 Mile End Road, E1 (01-780 4000). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50.

★ **BLESS THE BRIDE:** Splendidly staged revival of Vivian Ellis heart-warmer. Jan Hartley has a lovely day. Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (01-278 9916). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50.

★ **BLUES IN THE NIGHT:** Return of hit blues show Carol Woods, Debby Bishop, Mimi Friedman sing their hearts out in a sleazy Chicago hotel. Dominion Theatre, 41 Easton Street, WC2 (01-240 8230). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50.

★ **BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS:** Neil Simon's vivid recollection of a Brooklyn childhood. Waves of emotion. Julie Covington joins the cast in an NT transfer. Aldwych Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 5404). Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Tue-Sat 8pm, Sun 2.30pm, £3.50.

★ **CURTAINS:** Sheila Ballantyne, Alfred Lynch and Gwen Nelson lead a strong cast in a play of family disunity by Stephen Bell. Hampstead Theatre, Cuff Parade, N16 (01-267 8230). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50.

★ **FLIGHT:** Transfer from Stratford of David Lan's chronicle of a refugee Jewish family. The Pit, Barbican Centre, EC2 (01-836 5404). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50.

★ **KIDDOUSH:** Direct from Edinburgh, modern Israeli drama showing religious hypocrisy corroding society from within. Performed in Hebrew. Simultaneous translation available. Bloomsbury Theatre, Gordon Street, WC1 (01-387 9629). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50.

★ **THE LIGHT OF DAY:** Nicola Pagett, Nigel Terry and Claire Hackett at the points of the eternal triangle; set in Manhattan. Lyric Theatre, King Street, WC2 (01-741 2311). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50.

★ **MARY ROSE:** Amanda Waring in the title role of Barrie's affecting play about ghosts, motherly love and a Caribbean island. Greenwich Theatre, Crooms Hill, SE10 (01-858 7755). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50.

★ **THIS SAVAGE PARADE:** A group of Israelis stage a secret trial of a Nazi criminal, with surprising results. Alfred Marks and Garfield Morgan in an early Anthony Shaffer play. King's Head Theatre, 115 Upper Street, N1 (01-226 1911). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50.

★ **SERIOUS MONEY:** Caryl Churchill's searing musical play about the Big Bang transfers after a sell-out run at the Royal Court. Wyndham's Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-836 3028). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50.

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★ **SIX CHARACTERS IN SEARCH OF AN AUTHOR:** Michael Rudman's production of Pirandello's most famous play; powerful mix of metaphysics and theatrical shoes. National Theatre, South Bank, SE1 (01-226 2252). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50.

★ **VINCH:** One-man spectacular by renowned Canadian director Robert Laplante. Light, sound and hologram. ICA Theatre, The Mall, SW1 (01-930 3647). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50.

★ **THE BUSINESS OF MURDER:** Mayfair Theatre (01-629 4079). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50.

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★ **GOOD MORNING BABYLON (15):** Two stonemasons from Tuscany come to America, the land of promise, and find work in Hollywood building the Babylon set for D.W. Griffith's *Intolerance*. The Tavis Brothers' film springs from a marvelous idea; a pity it dwells on trivial episodes and fuzzy period re-creations. With Joaquin De Almeida, Vincent Spano and Christopher Penn. D.W. Griffith (117 min). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 5.05, 8.40.

★ **HAMBURGER HILL (15):** The bloody story of an inexperienced young platoon in Vietnam. Directed by John Irvin with a deliberately unsteady cast (118 min). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 5.05, 8.40.

★ **JAWS IV - THE REVENGE (PG):** Latest shark horror with Michael Caine and Karen Young. Joseph Sargent directs (100 min). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 5.05, 8.40.

★ **LETHAL WEAPON (12):** Confused but grossly packaged thriller of praise of violence and revenge, with Mel Gibson and Danny Glover as warring detectives, both Vietnam veterans, pursuing drug smuggler Gary Bussey. Richard Donner directs (109 min). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 5.05, 8.40.

★ **PEE-WEE'S BIG ADVENTURE (U):** Pee-wee is a child in adult body, in pursuit of his bicycle. With comic Paul Reubens as the questing hero (92 min). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 5.05, 8.40.

★ **SCREEN ON THE GREEN (11-22):** Screen on the Green (11-22). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 5.05, 8.40.

★ **PING PONG (PG):** Slight but engaging comedy-drama set in London's Chinatown, with Lucy Sheen as the young lawyer trying to sort out the complex lives of prominent community members. (100 min). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 5.05, 8.40.

★ **POWER (15):** Sidney Lumet's simple-minded, earnest 1968, features Richard Gere as a public relations whiz who lands in hot water with a politically ambitious client. With Julie Christie and Gene Hackman (111 min). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 5.05, 8.40.

★ **RADIO DAYS (PG):** Woody Allen's sweet, delicate comedy of Brooklyn families, broadcasters and Manhattanites sharing hopes and dreams at the end of the 1930s. With Mia Farrow, Richard Dreyfuss and Seth Green (89 min). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 5.05, 8.40.

★ **THE ARISTOCATS (U):** Re-issue of the Disney Studio musical about a feline family under threat from an avian butler. An episodic story, but the vocal characterizations (by Phil Harris, Hermione Baddeley and Eva Gabor) are lively (79 min). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 5.05, 8.40.

★ **BLACK WIDOW (15):** A homicidal psychopath kills several wealthy husbands and is investigated by the Justice Department, notably Alex (played by Debra Winger) (114 min). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 5.05, 8.40.

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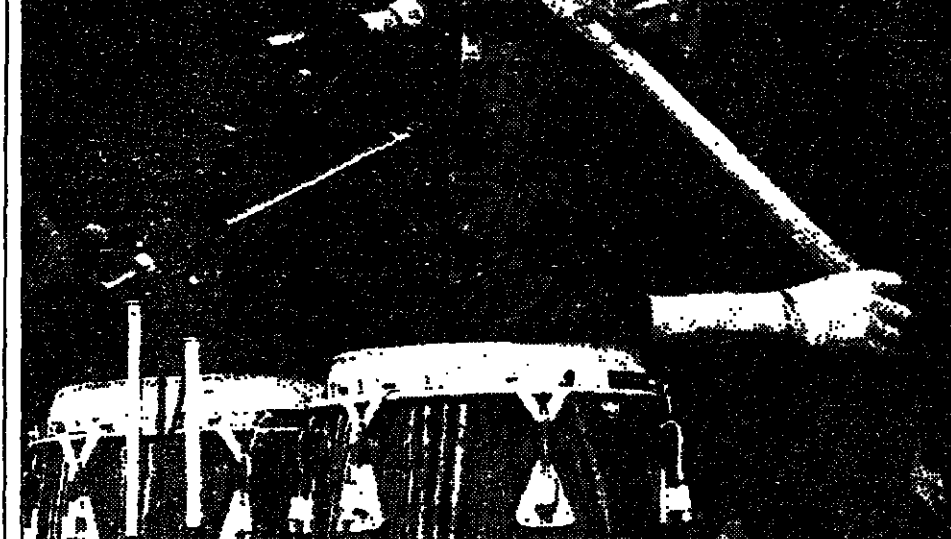
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Just as Bob Marley's use of synthesizers, guitar solos and protest lyrics on *Catch a Fire* began the process of giving reggae credibility in the eyes of the world outside Jamaica, so *Soro* by Salif Keita (above), which is released in Britain this week, suggests that African music may be about to experience the same phenomenon, permitting the process begun by King Sunny Adé and Ladysmith Black Mambazo to reach fruition. There is not much savagery in Keita's music, just a remarkable integration of African musical modes and practices with the full panoply of Western technology: you will hear nothing this year making better use of electronic instruments and multi-tracking. More important, though, is that these facilities are put into the service of a genuinely remarkable voice, with songs of matching quality. Keita, an

alumni of aristocratic lineage from the West African state of Mali, was a member of several popular bands before opting for a solo career - and residence in Europe - several years ago. Recorded in Paris, where many African musicians have found a congenial home, *Soro* is full of moving, memorable songs showing off the ardent, flavoured sound of his voice and as much like an Islamic mezzosoprano as an African griot. Aretha Franklin makes spines tingle in the same sort of way; with Keita, too, you do not need to understand a word of the lyrics to get the message. He makes his London debut tonight at the Astoria, 157 Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (01-434 0403, cc 01-734 8932, 8pm, £7), in an event that could turn out to be as historic as Marley's Lyceum concert a dozen summers ago.

Richard Williams

★ **CHICO HAMILTON:** First heard with the famous Gerry Mulligan Quartet of the early Fifties, then as the leader of his own adventurous combos, Hamilton remains a deft and propulsive drummer with a bluesy eye for young talent. Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Frith Street, London W1 (01-439 0747), 9.30pm, £3 (members £2).

★ **HUMAN CHAIN:** From the Loses Tubes's historic Prom appearance, Django Bates and Steve Argüelles return to their antediluvian eclectic duo. Pled Bull, 1 Liverpool Road, London N1 (01-226 8100), 8.30pm, £2.50.

★ **LITTLE STEVEN:** Rare visit from Spontaneous's ex-Lieutenant. His "Freedom No Compromise" is a disappointing mish-mash of tired rock riffs and lyrical stodge, but his live shows are usually events of exceptional intensity. Support is The Flaming Musicians. Town Centre, 9-17 Highgate Road, London NW5 (01-267 3334) 8pm, £7.50, for two nights.

★ **STEVE WONDER:** Motown's longest-running superstar prevails unopposed material from his new album, with a few new songs and a few old ones. Repairs for last summer's postponed dates. Westbury Avenue, Empire Way, London W1 (01-224 1234), 8pm, £13. £15, plus four nights from Thurs. Tickets for May 26 valid tonight.

★ **GEORGIA SATELLITES:** Traditional roughneck R'n'B in an early Stones-indebted form, but the band who enjoyed unexpected success in America earlier this year with "Keep Your Hands To Yourself". Victoria Hall, Bognor Regis, Hants (01243 22618), 7.30pm, £5.

★ **DEF LEPPARD:** Start of a lengthy British tour for the English band with the thoroughly American sound. Their latest top 10 hit "Animal" was their first release in three years. Royal Court, Theatre Square, Nottingham (0602 482628), 7.30pm, £5.50-£5.

★ **JOHNNY CASH:** One of Sun Records's progenitor Sam Phillips's other discoveries is now an enduring giant from the golden era of country music. His wife, June Carter Cash, and the Carter Family are also on the bill. Bents Park, South Shields (0235 550068), Gates open 10.30am, £7.50.

★ **THE ITALIAN JOURNEY:** See caption.

★ **FRANCIS KYE GALLERY:** 9 Maddox Street, London W1 (01-499 6870). Mon-Fri 10-5pm, Sat 11-5pm, free, until Sept 17.

★ **MASTERS OF THE SEA:** Marine watercolours by experts in the art of the sea, from the van der Velde as well as amateur attempts by naval officers on voyages of discovery. National Maritime Museum, Park Row, Greenwich, London SE10 (01-858 4422), Mon-Sat 10-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, £1.50, until Oct 25.

★ **THE STAFFA PROJECT:** Artists Thomas Joseph Cooper and Ian McKee make two visits to the uninhabited island off Mull to produce work for this exhibition. Harris Museum and Art Gallery, Market Square, Preston (0772 582428), Mon-Sat 10-5pm, free, until Sept 28.

★ **SALOME:** Revival of Joachim Herz's one-act opera, the production for English National Opera, with Josephine Barstow in the title role and Mark Elder conducting. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161), 8-9.45pm, £2-22.50.

★ **JOHN MAFANGELLA:** An exhibition of expressionistic woodcuts by a 39-year-old American, with a selection of his principal subjects in a portfolio. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3002), daily 10-10pm, free, until Oct 4.

★ **THE PAINTED HORSE:** Five artists explore the horse as a subject for modern painting. Cadogan Contemporary, 108 Draycott Avenue, London SW3 (01-851 5451), Mon-Fri 10-7pm, Sat 10-5pm, free, until Sept 12.

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Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

(Change on week)
FT 30 Share
1759.8 (+32.6)
FT-SE 100
2249.7 (+43.9)
Bargains
26580 (43885)
USM (Datastream)
208.69 (+3.97)

THE POUND

(Change on week)
US dollar
1.6305 (+0.0010)
W German mark
2.9589 (-0.0006)
Trade-weighted
72.5 (-0.1)

UK equity market overvalued

The United Kingdom equity market is "dangerously overvalued," according to *Money Bulletin* published today by Midland Montagu, the securities arm of Midland Bank.

Mr Gordon Pepper, the author, says that while the sharp increases in money and credit of the early 1970s led to general inflation, recent money and credit growth has led to "speculative bubbles" in the financial markets.

The *Bulletin* compares the gilt and equity markets and concludes that, while the gilt market's level appears to be soundly based, this is not the case for equities.

Hoare Govett Canadian buy

The rush by foreign banks and securities houses to secure a foothold in Canada's newly liberalized financial markets accelerated yesterday when Security Pacific Hoare Govett agreed to buy a key stake in Burns Fry Corporation, a Toronto securities dealer, for Can\$100 million (\$46.5 million).

The agreement, which requires US and Canadian regulatory approval, allows Security Pacific Hoare Govett, the London holding company for the international operations of America's Security Pacific Merchant Bank, to lift its initial 30 per cent stake to 50 per cent after three years, and further above that level later on.

Oil nears \$20 on Gulf clash

Oil prices rose sharply yesterday, in response to reports of renewed hostilities between Iraq and Iran in the Gulf. On the New York Mercantile Exchange, West Texas Intermediate crude for October delivery rose to \$19.92 a barrel, up 53 cents on Friday's close.

In New York last night the dollar was quoted at DM1.8110 and ¥141.80, little changed on Friday's closing levels. The pound was trading at \$1.6335, a third of a cent up on Friday's close.

Economic View, page 21

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	2658.96 (+19.61)
Tokyo	Nikkei Dow	26029.22 (-18.95)
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	Market Closed
Australian	ASX 200	2150.2 (-12.9)
Frankfurt	DAX	2015.9 (+2.4)
Brussels	General	3321.7 (-17.8)
Paris	CAC	428.7 (+2.7)
London	FT-SE 100	2249.7 (+43.9)
FT-SE 250		1253.89 (+1.26)
FT-SE 100		2249.7 (+43.9)
FT-SE 100		2249.7 (+43.9)
FT-SE 100		2249.7 (+43.9)

Closing prices Page 23

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	10%
3-month Interbank	10%-10.5%
3-month eligible bills	10%-10.5%
US Prime Rate	8 1/4%
Federal Funds 5 1/4%	
3-month Treasury Bills	6.27-6.25%
30-year bonds	9 1/4-9 1/2%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£/\$	\$1.6305
£/DM	2.9589
£/¥	141.80
£/FF	FF166.37
£/Sfr	Sfr1.4833
£/A\$	A\$1.4833
£/Yen	¥141.80
£/DM	DM2.9589
£/FF	FF166.37
£/Sfr	Sfr1.4833
£/A\$	A\$1.4833
£/Yen	¥141.80

GOLD

London	New York
AM \$455.00 pm \$453.40	
close \$453.50-454.00	
\$278.75	
London	
Comex \$455.00-455.30	

* Denotes Friday's trading price

CBI warning on exports Slowdown predicted but orders healthy

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry, in its August *Economic Situation Report* published today, says order books are healthy - but exports are levelling off.

The CBI's latest staff forecast predicts a slowdown for the economy next year, accompanied by rising unemployment.

In the context of this forecast and its survey evidence on the outlook for prices, the CBI reaffirmed its view that the economy is overheating and inflation is misaligned.

"There is little evidence from our members of increasing inflationary pressures, which could lead to overheating in the economy over the next few months," said Mr David Wigglesworth, chairman of the CBI's economic situation committee.

"The majority of members of our committee are reporting healthy growth, with few indications of undue pressure on prices or on capacity."

The CBI's August monthly trends inquiry displays a picture of economic buoyancy. A "balance" of 11 per cent of firms reported order books above normal (those above normal minus those below normal) - the best result since this question was first asked in 1977.

Similarly, prospects for manufacturing output are good. A balance of 36 per cent of firms expected to increase their output over the next four months.

The main area of concern raised by the CBI's latest evidence is on the outlook for exports. Among the 1,352 companies surveyed, the balance reporting export order books above normal fell to 5 per cent last month from 10 per cent in July.

The CBI said export prospects were now starting to reflect the 9.5 per cent appreciation of sterling between October and May.

Its forecast is for a slowdown in export growth to 1.6 per cent next year, from 5.4 per cent this year, together with a widening of the current account deficit from £1.3 billion to £2.6 billion.

Mr John Caff, economics director of the CBI, said the gloomier outlook for exports was due to a slowdown in world trade growth, mainly brought about by the substitution of home-produced goods for imports in the United States.

"UK industry will find the going tougher in world markets," he said. But he predicted: "British industry will continue to deliver the goods and flourish at a time when competitive pressures remain intense."

The CBI's economists expect manufacturing industry to perform relatively better than the rest of the economy. This year, manufacturing output is forecast to rise by 4.9 per cent, within an overall growth rate for the economy of 3.1 per cent.

Next year the economy is forecast to slow to a 2.2 per cent growth rate, while manufacturing growth is maintained at a relatively healthy 4.4 per cent. Part of the reason for this is the buoyancy of investment. Overall investment is expected to rise by 3.6 per cent this year, rising to 6.3 per cent in 1988. Within this, the acceleration in manufacturing investment is forecast to be stronger, from 1 per cent growth this year to a 6.1 per cent increase next year.

Although the CBI rejects overheating worries, its forecasts are for a deterioration in both inflation and the current account. Inflation is forecast to move up into the 5-5.5 per cent range by the second half of next year. Unemployment, after falling to 2.7 million in the first half of next year, is predicted to rise to 2.9 million by the end of the year.

Base rates 'will rise to 11%

By Our Economics Correspondent

Base rates were last increased on August 6, from 9 per cent to 10 per cent, and this caused the building societies to scrap plans for mortgage rate reductions.

"The recent announcement of very high growth in July bank lending and money supply resulted in concern that the 1 per cent rise in base rates would prove to be insufficient," the report says.

"Our central forecast now envisages that base rates and other short-term interest rates will rise to 11 per cent within the next two to three months and remain at this higher level until the spring of 1988."

But slower growth in consumer spending and bank lending should permit a reduction in rates to 9 per cent by the end of next year, according to the forecast.

Boesky may talk to DPP

By Joe Joseph

Mr Ivan Boesky, the disgraced Wall Street arbitrageur due to be sentenced in New York next month on criminal charges arising from his insider dealing, is understood to have offered to help British authorities trying to clarify many of the murky events still clouding the Guinness case.

Mr Boesky has already co-operated extensively with the US Attorney's office in the hope of leniency when judgment is handed down against him on October 9.

His evidence to the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) was pivotal in helping the British Government to launch its investigation into Guinness's £2.7 billion takeover battle for Distillers last year.

Inquiries in the US yesterday indicated that Mr Boesky had now offered to tell Britain's Director of Public Prosecutions what he knows.

Co-operating Ivan Boesky about the events and personalities involved in the Guinness share support operation at the time of the Distillers takeover.

Those people whose involvement Mr Boesky might be able to clarify could include Mr Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chief who is due to appear in court today, Mr Roger Sedgwick, who was dismissed from the merchant bank Morgan Grenfell, and Mr Thomas Ward, the Washington-based lawyer and former Guinness director who has been ordered by the High Court to repay £5.2 million he received from the brewing company.

There are also reports suggesting that Mr Boesky has tempted the British authorities by offering information on three other takeover bids.

Those officials who could be reached for comment in London yesterday said they could neither confirm nor deny that an approach had been made to help the British authorities. Mr Boesky's lawyers in the US were equally reticent.

Mr Robert McCaw, of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering in Washington, said yesterday: "I am not in a position to comment. It would not be appropriate to say anything at this stage."

USM REVIEW

Holders weather the storms

By Michael Clark

Companies quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market should suffer less from the bouts of panic selling seen recently in the stock market than their bigger, better-known brethren, according to Mr Ken Long, the editor of *USM/Smaller Companies Review* for August.

He argues that because USM and other smaller companies generally have a lower percentage of their issued share capital available in the open market, the shares tend to be tighter held. It means, he says, that it is difficult to build up significant stakes, and often impossible in a falling market, to sell a stake.

"Building up a holding requires just that bit more patience when the market is only in a small number of shares, but getting rid of that stake again, a trade-out, is sometimes another matter," he said.

"In a falling market, dealing in any size could be difficult, if not impossible - but then why panic and try to sell in one trade what may have taken weeks or even months to build up?"

"Maybe the small investor has got it right - buy a stock then forget about it while it rises, and weather the storms."

He also suggests that many smaller companies - including the USM's - have a more loyal band of shareholders and that this loyalty has been strengthened by the growing trend among companies to offer share options to their employees or, alternatively, save-as-you-earn stock purchase schemes. Employee shareholders are both more loyal as

shareholders and more loyal as staff.

"Young, fast-growing companies with little or no debt, often find that their major problem in maintaining organic growth is recruiting and keeping qualified, skilled staff. Due to their relatively small size, some companies cannot provide all the attractive employee benefits of much larger concerns. However, stock options and stock purchase schemes now abound and appear to be a very satisfactory way of involving and rewarding staff," Mr Long said.

Being a shareholder of the company encourages them to perform better at their respective jobs, increases productivity and eliminates waste.

"The rise in a company's share price in line with good results, followed by further enhancement on forecasts of better things to come on the earnings front, will definitely keep employees' interests sharp," he adds.

The growth of employee share schemes has undoubtedly been boosted by the recent long-running bull market and the Government's privatization programme which has demonstrated to newcomers to the stock market how lucrative small share stakes can be.

He sees the stock market's recent nervousness as a short-term correction and says that it will help to focus the minds of many stock market newcomers on the small print carried in the prospectuses of most new issues "that the price of shares can go down as well as up."

Bae equity limit plea



Foreign buying choked off: Professor Roland Smith

Chairman of Land Securities dies

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

The property world lost its doyen last Friday when Lord Samuel of Wych Cross, founder and chairman of Land Securities, died at the age of 75, after a long illness.

Harold Samuel was the most successful of all developers who rebuilt central London after the war.

Starting from scratch in the 1940s, he built Land Securities into the world's biggest property company in 20 years. It now has property worth more than £3 billion and a £2.5 billion stock market value.

Mr Peter Hunt, who succeeded him as managing director of Land Securities in 1978, said yesterday Lord Samuel was a remarkable man who became the most highly respected figure in the commercial property world.

"He was very decisive and knew exactly what he wanted and what assets he wanted to create," Mr Hunt said.

Land Securities built its strength by developing properties on the line running from Oxford Street to Aldgate Pump in the City. In recent years, it has become much more active in development.

The Samuel family owns about 4 per cent of Land Securities. The board will elect a new chairman this week. The group will inevitably be subject to bid rumours.

Mr Hunt said: "We believe in building the best portfolio, creating buildings you want in the location you want them and assets that will always be in demand."

News Corp in bid for minority shares

The News Corporation, Mr Rupert Murdoch's Australian-based international publishing and television group, yesterday bid Aus\$9 per share for the outstanding 48.7 per cent minority in Advertiser Newspapers of Adelaide.

The offer, which gives shareholders the alternative of agreeing to a capital reduction, values Advertiser Newspapers at Aus\$930 million (£400 million). Mr Ron Brierley, the New Zealander who controls 19.9 per cent of Advertiser shares, will accept the offer.

At a meeting of the Securities Institute of Australia yesterday, Mr Murdoch also said that profits of The News Corporation, which owns *The Times*, are likely to grow from the recently announced Aus\$366 million to at least Aus\$450 million in the year to June 1988.

Mr Murdoch said that he expected much better profits from the group's Australian newspaper interests.

The group is likely to concentrate its further US expansion on television and magazines.

Aus\$2.25bn bid for Fairfax

From Richard Battley, Sydney

The stock market here declared the bid too low. Mr Fairfax is offering Aus\$7.50 a share; the market opened at Aus\$8.10, quickly reached Aus\$9.06 and then retreated to Aus\$9. That closing price values the group at Aus\$2.7 billion.

The bid is seen as an attempt to keep the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the immensely successful morning broadsheet, "forever Fairfax."

Mr Fairfax's bold plans mean the SMH would be owned outright by the Fairfax family. He wants to de-list John Fairfax - his proposed vehicle for the SMH - and re-list the wholly owned subsidiary, David Syme.

Mr Fairfax is using a shelf company to offer the Aus\$7.50 cash per share, or three David Syme shares plus Aus\$4.50 cash, or 15 Syme shares for every two Fairfax shares. Mr Robert Holmes & Court could counterbid, but is thought unlikely to succeed.

Mr Fairfax, whose family holds about half the shares, needs 90 per cent to acquire compulsorily the outstanding shares and clear the way for the David Syme float.

Pickens in \$6bn bid for US mine

From Nick Gilbert, New York

Mr T Boone Pickens, the Wall Street raider, opened the first shot in what could prove a bitter transatlantic battle by launching a near-\$6 billion, all-cash takeover bid for Newmont Mining, a leading US gold producer.

Newmont has already pledged to defend its independence, backed by its largest shareholder Mr Harry Oppenheimer's Consolidated Gold Fields, which owns 26.2 per cent.

Mr Pickens's Ivanhoe Partners revealed its \$95 share cash offer before Wall Street opened for trading yesterday.

Mr Pickens's group has held almost 10 per cent in Newmont for some weeks but analysts had expressed doubt whether he could raise enough cash for this offer.

Newmont shares closed at \$82 last week but shot up in unofficial dealings early yesterday to \$98. Later, however, the shares dropped to \$92 in New York, below the bid, on suggestions that Pickens was merely attempting to flush out a rival bid or force Newmont into a huge restructuring.

Mr Pickens declared he was "highly confident" that he could obtain financing for his bid.

He also said Newmont's management would be retained and would be offered a "meaningful equity ownership" in the mining giant should the takeover succeed.

Mr Pickens also offered ConsGold, in what is clearly designed as a peace offering, the chance to keep an equity stake in Newmont or to swap its holding for the opportunity to bid for Newmont assets.

The bid is after defensive moves by Newmont, which last Thursday announced a significant boost in gold reserves held by its subsidiary Newmont Gold, raising the total 14 per cent to an estimated \$12.3 billion.

Chairman of Land Securities dies

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BUSINESS

ROBERT SANGSTER'S
LOSING STREAK

Northern real estate fact or fiction?
Murder and the American share scam
Cars that are as good as gold - and better

Electricity grid 'should be run by privatized boards'

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The national grid should become an independent non-profit-making company owned by the regional distribution companies after privatization of the electricity industry, according to Mr Robert Peddie, a former member of the Central Electricity Generating Board and past chairman of the South Eastern Electricity Board.

Writing in tomorrow's issue of *Electrical Review*, he suggests that such a move would secure optimum competition with minimum regulation.

Mr Peddie says that the expertise required to run a

national grid does not depend on continuity of ownership but on a small cadre of qualified professionals.

They have developed their expertise in collaboration with their international counterparts and not necessarily through dialogue with others in the electricity supply industry.

So a change in ownership would not interfere with this continuity, thus ensuring that an independent transmission company would be feasible, Mr Peddie says.

At present, the national grid

is owned by the Central Electricity Generating Board, which generates power and sells it to the 13 area boards.

Mr Peddie suggests that the best solution, once the power stations and area boards have been sold off to private groups, would be to have the grid system owned on a non-profit basis by the privatized distribution companies.

These boards would have the statutory responsibility for continuity of supply and they would regulate the transmission company.

They would have a vested

interest in ensuring that the transmission company provided a continuous and reliable supply of energy at minimum cost.

"Planning errors would be reduced because the market maker (the grid company) and its owners (the distribution companies) could respond more flexibly to consumer demand, through its control of tariffs," according to Mr Peddie.

This would also be in line with the Government's wishes to increase customer sovereignty.

2 million jobs filled by MSC centres

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

The Manpower Services Commission's 1,000 JobCentres found work for nearly 2 million people in the 12 months to March this year. Taken together with training schemes, this means MSC agencies found jobs or provided training for one in eight of the working population.

The MSC chairman, Sir Bryan Nicholson, who is leaving to become chairman of the Post Office, says in his last annual report that it was a "year of vigorous growth and major achievement" for the commission.

Sir Bryan says 14 million long-term unemployed people received counselling and help through the expanded Restart programme; almost 3 million were assisted to find work or training and 86,000 people started their own businesses on the enterprise allowance scheme.

In addition, he says, the two-year youth training scheme was launched for more than 360,000 young people; 1,000 jobclubs were established and 61,000 young people were introduced to vocational training in schools.

Sir Bryan says: "These are impressive statistics by anyone's standards but more importantly, they reflect a positive and vigorous commitment to revitalising the employment prospects of Britain's future workforce."

The report shows that 2.6 million vacancies were reported during the year and that up to March, the employed labour force was estimated to have increased by 257,000. The largest part of the increase was accounted for by a rise of 110,000 in the number of women part-time employees.

The employed labour force is estimated to have increased by 1.22 million since March 1983 and self-employment is provisionally estimated to have risen by 496,000 in that time.

The report shows that the MSC's net expenditure over the 12 months rose to £3 billion from £2.4 billion the previous year.

Other statistics from the report show that during the year, 109,000 people attended Restart assessment and job search courses and 18,000 people left jobclubs for a job, self-employment or the community programme.

MSC Annual Report, £5, from MSC PP2, Freepost, P.O. Box 616, Bradford BD9 4BR.

ECONOMIC VIEW

Group of Seven should shift dollar goalposts

The heightened tension in the Gulf over the weekend has provided the dollar with a temporary respite. But the dollar's safe haven attractions are unlikely to be more than a brief match for the damaging economic fundamentals weighing down upon it.

The dollar's unexpectedly good summer came to an early end in the middle of August. Until then, as it hovered around the DM1.90 and Y150 levels, the main source of dollar embarrassment was its strength rather than its weakness.

By last week, things had more or less returned to normal. The dollar was under persistent, albeit fairly gentle, pressure. Japan offered both actual and moral support, through intervention and official statements declaring the dollar's present level to be appropriate. On Friday, a gang of European central banks stepped in to slow the dollar's slide.

The dollar has started to suffer from the almost universal belief in the foreign exchange markets that the US current account deficit is not going to decline sufficiently with the currency at present levels.

David Morrison, international economist at Goldman Sachs, characterizes the present attitude of foreign exchange dealers towards the dollar as one of impatience. After they were led to expect that the deficit was on the mend, the US trade figures for June came as a cruel blow.

The \$15.7 billion (£9.6 billion) deficit was bad — so much so that the markets delayed their reaction to it in the hope that the figures were distorted. As it turned out, the only distortion, revised trade data for US trade with Canada, made the figures look better than they actually were. Without the revision, the deficit would have been \$16.3 billion.

Taken alone, the stubborn nature of the US deficit was worrying enough. In conjunction with figures showing little if any downward movement on West German and Japanese surpluses, the picture for the dollar becomes even more depressing.

There was never going to be a speedy solution to the problem of the huge current account imbalances of the leading economies. But the evidence so far suggests that little or no progress has been made at current dollar levels. Importers into the US have sacrificed profit margins in order to stay in the market. The growth rate of the US economy has been more robust than seemed likely. And the export performance, while showing some signs of improvement, is still relatively weak. The second-quarter current account deficit was a record \$39.53 billion.

The Group of Seven finance ministers and central bankers meet in

Washington at the end of the month to review their strategy on the dollar. They can congratulate themselves on having achieved dollar stability, helped by some hefty intervention in the currency markets (\$70 billion in the first five months of this year according to Karl Otto Pöhl, Bundesbank president) since the Louvre accord of February.

The finance ministers have a choice. They can defend the dollar at present levels, and hope the current overwhelmingly bearish sentiment on the dollar passes over. Or they can retain the initiative by moving the dollar goalposts.

Shifting the dollar from its present levels of just above DM1.80 and Y140 to, say, DM1.60 to DM1.70 and Y125 to Y135 would give the foreign exchange markets their pound of flesh. And it could be enough to start bringing about the required correction of those damaging payments imbalances.

Nearer to home, the European Monetary System is attracting a good deal of interest, including a weighty tome on the subject from Credit Suisse First Boston. There are two reasons for the attention. The first is that a decent interval has now passed since the election and, if the EMS is to play a central role in British monetary policy for the next four or five years, a decision on full sterling membership has to be taken soon.

The second is that EMS reform is in the air, and on the agenda for the EEC finance ministers' meeting of September 12/13. Edouard Balladur, the French finance minister, has tabled proposals that would shift the balance of EMS power away from West Germany and could make it easier for Britain to join.

In particular, he has proposed that the EMS countries should negotiate as a block in currency deals with Japan and the US, rather than be carried along on Bonn's coat tails. Closer co-ordination of economic policy among EMS members is also urged, as is the strengthening of intervention, notably by establishing the European Currency Unit as a genuine reserve asset, and by boosting the holdings by the individual EMS central banks of the currencies of other member countries.

A more equitable EMS should have its attractions for Britain. There are also suggestions of a reduction in the wider EMS fluctuation band, at present only occupied by Italy, from +/- 6 per cent to +/- 4 per cent, which could also have its appeal for Britain. But as always when this subject is raised, the main obstacle to EMS entry is the Prime Minister's reluctance. And there is no good reason to think that this obstacle has yet been removed.

David Smith

Economics Correspondent

Burberrys lays on food spread

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Burberrys, the GUS subsidiary best known for its raincoats, country wear and other clothing, is diversifying into food. In an extension of its quality approach to its products Burberrys will be selling a wide range of preserves, mustards, biscuits and teas.

The company has already launched its own brand of Scotch whisky, in blends of eight, 12 and 15 years old. The business gifts market will be a key target for the foods range, offering a choice of hampers.

The move is the latest manifestation of a Burberrys policy of "expansion with discretion", according to Mr Wallace Goodkind, managing director of the accessories division.

Financial growth at Burberrys has averaged 25 per cent a year since 1961. Exports now account for 70 per cent of turnover. It has won the Queen's Award for Exports five times.

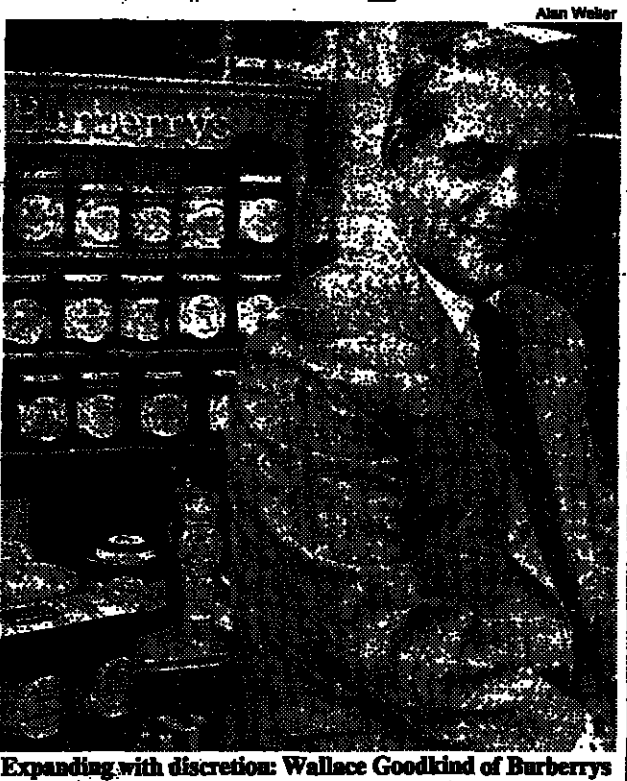
The Burberrys brand food will also be sold abroad where

the company's main markets are in Japan, the US, Italy, France and West Germany.

There are now 30 Burberrys stores, five of them in London. More openings abroad are expected later this year. There are also Burberrys departments in stores such as Harrods.

The non-clothing element at Burberrys is becoming increasingly important, said Mr Goodkind, with accessories now accounting for about 17 per cent of turnover. "The accessories side has been expanding for five years and is now one of the biggest growth areas for us. Within three years, I hope, we shall just about double the accessories sales."

A new jewellery collection will feature the well-known Burberrys check pattern, mingling beige, black, red and white. That first appeared in 1924, introduced by a company founded by Thomas Burberry in 1856.



Expanding with discretion: Wallace Goodkind of Burberrys

Firms canvassed over declaring R&D cash

By Robert Matthews

Industry's reaction to proposals to make detailed statements on research and development expenditure mandatory in company accounts is sought by Deloitte Haskins & Sells, the accountants.

The level of such expenditure is central to the controversy over the health of British science and technology, with the Government urging industry to contribute more.

A House of Lords select committee said in January that R&D spending should be

disclosed so investors could see if a company was investing enough in its future.

The current Accounting Standards Committee guidelines on listing R&D spending in company accounts were drawn up after the 1971 Rolls-Royce collapse.

Deloitte is canvassing more than 3,000 companies to gauge reaction to the ASC proposal for a mandatory detailed breakdown of projects.

The Department of Trade and Industry wants greater disclosure.

Continental companies take monorail contract

By Our Correspondent

Two large contracts for the Gateshead National Garden Festival, Tyne & Wear, in three years time are going to continental companies because British companies are not prepared to invest in the technology required.

A monorail system and a "road train" are needed to move people around the site of the festival, at Dunston on the banks of the River Tyne.

In spite of widespread publicity, including advertisements in the trade press, no

British company has taken on the challenge.

Favourite to build the monorail system, worth about £250,000, is a Belgian company. An Italian company is likely to provide the road train.

"It seems that nobody in this country is interested in investing in the technology of the new public transport systems needed for the festival," a member of staff said.

About £11 million of work on site preparation, roads and services has been let.

Leisure industry forecasts progress

By Our Industrial Editor

The leisure business in Britain is forecasting that 1987 should, for the majority, end with increased trading in both volume and value — despite this summer's appalling weather. This is the conclusion of a survey by the English Tourist Board (ETB), which questioned a wide range of commercial operators such as hotels, resorts and leisure parks.

But it produces some sharp warnings for the industry as holidaymakers increasingly

swing away from the traditional high season of July and August and take shorter holidays in this country.

Of 35 resorts and commercial operators that offered a forecast for the whole of 1987, 20 expected an increase in trade over 1986, while 10 thought trading levels would be the same. Only five thought there would be a decline.

Prospects for September and October appear good. There were 26 resorts and operators which reported increased bookings for the two

months, while four were registering similar levels to last year. None reported any decline.

The normally strong surge in the first two months of the year was hit by the extremes of bad weather. Some recovery in the spring was vitiated by a fall-off in June during the general election period — the same phenomenon that affected the foreign package holidays trade.

The trend towards later booking has continued. During July and August bookings

have been coming in at one week's notice, prompting the more nervous commercial operators to turn to discounting.

One operator reported a marked trend away from the traditional high season with heavy bookings for "shoulder" months like September and October. Prices are pitched lower then, so the industry makes less profit.

Nevertheless a combination of July performance and August estimate showed about half the resorts and operators expecting an improvement on last year.

Jolliffe's yen for Jaguar

Sir Anthony Jolliffe, former Lord Mayor of London, may be one of the busiest men in the City — his entry in the *Directory of Directors* lists him as a board member of no fewer than 50 companies — but he does not believe in investing all his money in stocks and shares. Sir Anthony, who was also recently appointed a member of the IBA, tells me that the first love of his life is his collection of classic cars. He has a total of 31 such vehicles housed at his private motor museum on his 500-acre Buckinghamshire farm, including every Jaguar model produced since the war. Each car is in running order and the collection is reputed to be worth more than £500,000. While claiming that he now intends to start cutting back on some of his directorships, he will nevertheless be kept busier than ever with his latest project, Walker Greenbank, which he has promised to turn into a sizeable industrial conglomerate by 1989, doubling its stock market value to at least £250 million. He certainly is not wasting any time. Last month he bought Wallcoverings International for £32 million and he admits that several other acquisitions are in the pipeline.

Forced hearing

It is not only the staff and directors of Sperry who were less than pleased with the American computer giant's acrimonious merger with Burroughs — with the combined group now known, curiously,

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Civilized but indignant

Clive Barnes, who will be running the York City Centre office of Quilter Financial Services — part of Stock Exchange chairman Sir Nicholas Goodison's Quilter Goodison firm and also of French bank Paribas — has, I hear, unwittingly started off on the wrong foot with the local community. Quoted in a local newspaper there as saying that "York is our kind of town," a

civilized city, second only to London, Barnes has angered a number of proud Yorkshiremen. An indignant Peter Berry, head of marketing at York City Council, says: "This year York has been voted the most romantic city in Britain and the most photogenic, so we consider ourselves to be more civilized than London." Consider your wrists slapped, Mr Barnes.

as Unisys. Actor Kirk Douglas, who had signed an undisclosed but undoubtedly lucrative contract with Sperry to act as its corporate spokesman and star in an advertising campaign with the puzzling slogan "It pays to listen", is said to be furious at Bur-

roughs' decision to sever his connection with the firm. Claiming, among other things, "violation of his contract", he is now forcing the firm to listen to his grievances by suing it for \$17.8 million through Manhattan Federal Court.

Nat's week

Public companies are expected to meet the financial Press (and analysts) at least twice a year. But Nat Solomon of Picasurama did it twice in one week — last Monday to announce interim results, and again on Friday to announce the President Entertainment deal. On Friday he said with a twinkle in his eye: "Twice in one week — I'm not sure whether to feel sorry for the journalists or myself." But as one of the reporters pointed out: "These things always happen in threes." What will be next, I wonder?



'Good heavens, JB — don't tell me the rights issue has flopped'

Olives branch

Print union Sogat '82 and its leader, Brenda Dean, have decided to support the management of a Lancashire paper manufacturer. The union's general officer, George Beattie, has even written to merchant bank Manchester Exchange Trust backing the agreed takeover of Olives Paper Mill — one of Britain's oldest quoted companies — by Michael Kent, the 1970s property tycoon. Kent personally pocketed £30 million after selling his MP Kent Holdings to Beazer four years ago. Kent's best offer of 85p a share is clearly the favourite, even though it was trumped last week with a 100p offer by 17 per cent shareholder, Nathan Puri. Beattie writes that the union is "vigorously opposed" to Puri buying Olives because Sogat is already in dispute with him at another Lancashire paper mill, bought by Puri from Imperial Group. Sogat claims Puri has reneged on an undertaking to maintain existing terms and conditions.

Our first nomination for the yuppie of the month. Colleagues of Gary Coombes, a 27-year-old dealer for Libra Bank, have branded him a "super yuppie" because of his flashy lifestyle. Single, good-looking and regularly to be found in the breakfast car of the 6.35am Mairingtree to Liverpool Street train — reading *The Times*, of course — he is said to carry the biggest Filofax ever seen and wears only Burberry shirts and Church's shoes. To complete the City white-kid image, he even has a cat called Moss Bros.

Carol Leonard

The name you first think of isn't the only one with big ideas on instant accommodation.



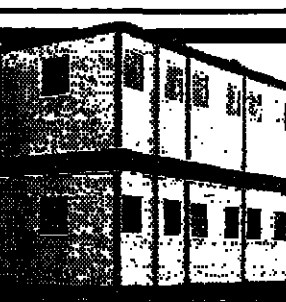
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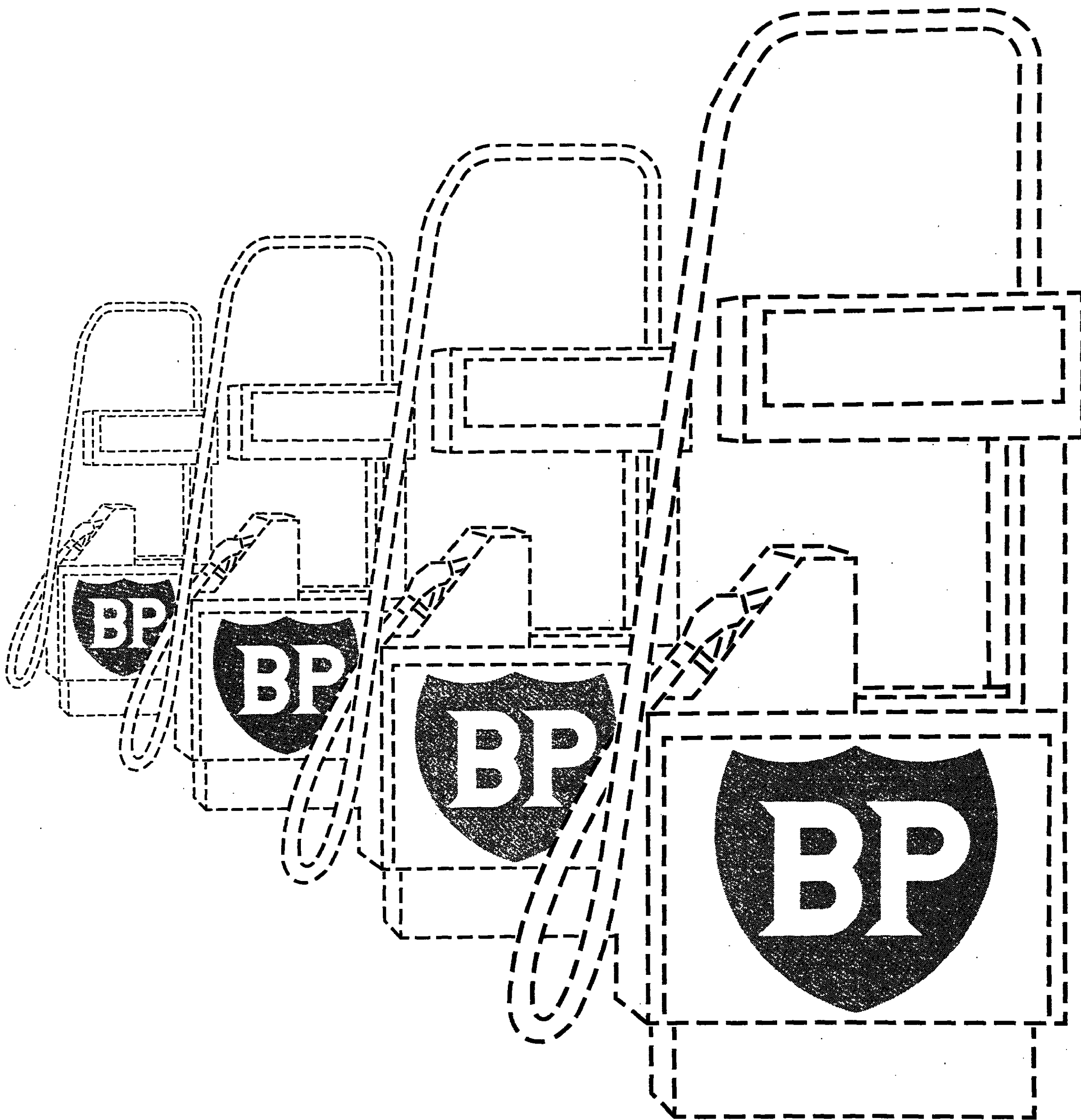
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Edited by Matthew May

COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

Getting easier in the micro race

The computer industry's silly season effectively ended last week with the first flush of new micro computer products that herald a state of further unveilings over the next few months.

One of Britain's few computer manufacturers, Apricot, showed off some new workstations last week that are compatible with IBM's AT design and include their own connections to computer networks directly on the main circuit board of the computer.

It should provide a good stepping stone for Apricot to continue its assault on the higher-end of the personal computer market.

Apricot claim the new range will be compatible with Microsoft's planned OS/2 operating system — due out early next year.

With prices starting at around £2000, Apricot is trying to keep costs low enough for a wide appeal.

THE WEEK



Ed Esber: competition

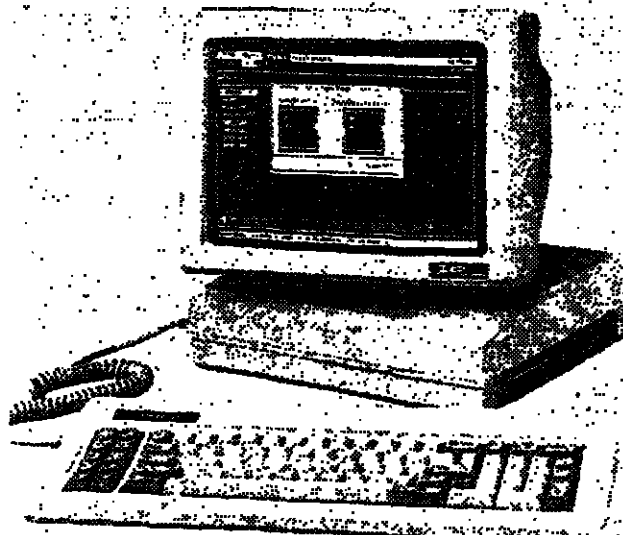
The same can be said for the US firm Zenith, which launched some cheap personal computers very much in the mould of Amstrad with prices starting under £500 for systems which use small 3½ inch disk drives and give a similar type of higher resolution display as IBM's considerably more expensive Personal System/2 Model 25 and Model 30 machines.

The "Easy PC" is also the first PC-compatible available in Britain with Microsoft's MS-DOS Manager software. This software looks to be a cut-down version of Microsoft's Windows software and should make the machines much easier to use — hence the name.

Another company with its eye on the Amstrad market is the software firm Ashton-Tate, which recently announced a low-cost version of its popular Framework II integrated software for the Amstrad PC range of computers and all other PC clone computers. The firm is also planning an updated version of its main product dBase III.

Tentatively known as dBase IV, chairman Ed Esber says the new software will rectify admitted problems and competition from similar, but cheaper programs.

It should perform better and connect easily with mini-



Rival: Zenith competition for Amstrad with new £500 micros

computers and mainframes. "We have not had a new version of dBase since 1985," said Mr Esber. "This created an opportunity for competition and we don't ever intend to leave that window open again."

Ashton-Tate, however, will not be moving in the same way as Lotus with its intention to produce a mainframe version of the best-selling finan-

cial spreadsheet, Lotus 1-2-3. "Our strategy is to dominate the micro and desktop workstation world," he said.

Mr Esber made his comments about dBase IV with some reluctance, as he says the company was forced into talking about it because of the pressure for news of a dBase product that will work with Microsoft's OS/2.

Geoff Wheelwright

Robots in arms

By Catherine Arnot

At General Motors' state-of-the-art factory in Michigan the gleaming tracks roll off a line which has the world's most advanced system for allowing different types of robots to communicate with each other.

The plant, where two newly introduced trucks are made, has 143 huge orange robots, connected by 20 miles (32 km) of cable. They take part in almost every step of the assembly, working alongside some 2,100 employees to build almost one truck an hour.

Visions of fully-automated factories, operated by only a handful of people, have danced in the heads of manufacturers for years. But one of the biggest stumbling blocks is the inability of intelligent automation devices — robots, computers — to work together.

Equipment designed by one firm could rarely communicate or share information with the equipment of another, creating what GM calls "isolated islands of automation".

Historically, computer firms developed proprietary systems and customers would stick with them for all their needs. But no one manufacturer has all the automation products a big factory needs and GM became tired of trying to work around the problem.

It has managed to link dozens of different brands of equipment into one cohesive network at the plant, using a communications standard called Manufacturing Automation Protocol (MAP).

In 1980 GM began to develop a set of specifications that, when built into a piece of

A factory of the future

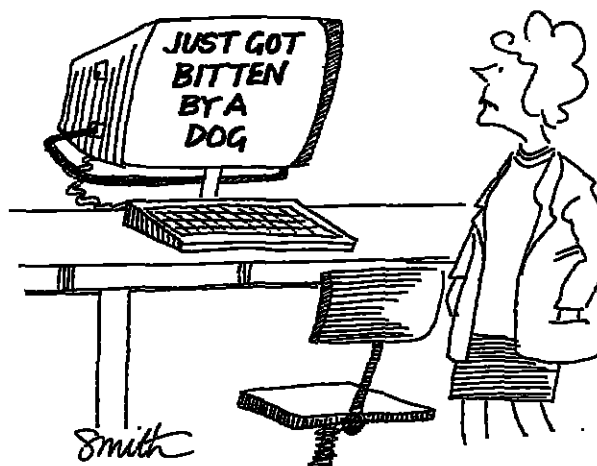
equipment, would allow it to communicate with equipment built to the same standards.

The result was MAP, which, according to both GM executives and equipment suppliers, is the key to the much lauded but also much delayed factory of the future.

IBM, Hewlett-Packard, Allen-Bradley and Wang Laboratories were among seven manufacturers taking part in the first public demonstration of MAP in 1984. Now more than 400 firms support it.

Because GM is the world's largest manufacturer, it had the financial clout to persuade suppliers to join the MAP bandwagon. But the standard is still not embraced wholeheartedly by all. Digital Equipment was also part of that 1984 demonstration but over the past year has been somewhat critical of MAP.

ELECTRONIC MAIL ROOM



Golden future for email

By Ann Kent

Anyone who uses a phone is familiar with the horrors of telephone tag. And indeed it is estimated that one call in two fails because the person you want to speak to is out, "at a meeting" or is on the phone.

Electronic mail, or email, is an obvious growth area for the computer industry because it avoids all these frustrations. Yet it has failed to catch on outside a band of fervent enthusiasts.

And this despite the service being available to the humblest micro owner, provided he or she also has a modem and software.

It should also be a natural for large organizations which already have their own internal communications system but no direct electronic link with the outside world.

Email's big problem has been incompatibility, although the providers of the service say this is about to change. Just as computers with different operating systems are unable to communicate, so people subscribing to different electronic mail companies cannot talk to each other. As a result, the growth of what seems a natural boom area has been blighted.

There are estimated to be only 120,000 electronic mailboxes in Britain, a tiny fraction of the potential market. And when many of these are company subscribers, the actual number of sites is probably well under 30,000.

But peace is about to descend on this electronic tower of Babel, according to the largest of the email providers, Telecom Gold and its Message Handling Service. It was originally promised for this time last year and then promised for last spring.

Phil Madden, head of sales and marketing for Telecom Gold, explained: "When you are pathfinding, things often take longer than you expect."

MHS is essentially a transla-

tion device, based on a particularly complicated piece of software, which changes the protocols used by one email service into a format understood by another.

It is based on a common standard, X400, which is regarded by the computing industry as the long-term solution to the incompatibility problem. X400 was written by the CCITT, an international committee which promotes telecommunications standards.

Gold has 76,000 users, although Mr Madden did not want to say what percentage of these were individuals and how many were company mailboxes.

Despite the relatively low number of users, charges on Telecom Gold are complex and have been made even more so with the introduction of extra new charges based on the amount of information sent as well as the subscription charge and cost per minute.

High charges at peak time

Even running through a tutorial on Telecom Gold could run up a charge of £20 at peak times.

Electronic mail is often compared with a hotel pigeon-hole message system. The subscriber regularly checks the service for any messages and reads and replies to them at his own convenience. It also provides a direct link with telex services, allowing subscribers to send and receive telexes without needing to invest in a terminal.

Unlike the recipient of written mail, the email subscriber can check and read his mail from any location — provided he has access to a modem and terminal.

It is expected that systems will soon be available which inform the user when an urgent message is waiting.

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The best kept secret?

A recent report by the Federation of Recruitment and Employment Services raised the issue of employers' dissatisfaction with computer science graduates, particularly their inadequate understanding of business.

Clearly some computing courses are not geared to the needs of industry and commerce. The technical manager of a software house, employer of one of our graduates at Thames Polytechnic, has described his computing course at

VIEWPOINT

By Alan Maddison

a major university, which contained virtually nothing relevant to his subsequent career in computing.

This state of affairs should not cause much surprise: the fact is that a number of university computer degrees are not recognized as a professional qualification by the British Computer Society.

These courses are likely to be of little value to industry, and their graduates will not be able to aspire to chartered engineer status. But do they always tell prospective students this?

Yet courses already exist that provide hybrid individuals combining both a knowledge of computers and general business as well as high academic standards. Why is this the best kept secret in IT graduate recruitment?

One answer is "self interest." Some years ago a tutor visiting computing science undergraduates on industrial training at a major manufacturing company noticed that out of 50 data processing staff, nine were from Thames Polytechnic.

When asked why there appeared to be no one from Thames on other sites, the manager said he was not going to reveal to anybody where he got his staff. When supplies are limited, you keep quiet about your source of supply.

The Thames course, one of a number in the polytechnic sector producing computing and information technology graduates to meet industry's needs, is a thick sandwich: two years in industry and a final year back at the polytechnic.

But it is what industry thinks of our students during their industrial training that best shows our ability to meet its needs. They are expected to be worth their salaries of up to £9,000. They commonly use unfamiliar computers and languages: this has been no problem, given a structured approach to programming and systems design from day one. They work in all types of organizations and all types of computing jobs.

These graduates are in great demand. They have an average of three job offers per student. The best salary we know for 1987 — not in the City — is £15,000. Two 1984 graduates went to New York in 1986 on salaries of \$40,000.

If employers are dissatisfied with the preparation of computing graduates, they should work more closely with higher education establishments that match their requirements.

Employers must also influence funding bodies to support with earmarked grants specific courses which produce what is needed.

Alan Maddison is Industrial Training Tutor on the Computing Science degree at Thames Polytechnic.

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سكراين الامم

Games become serious for Atari

By Andrew Pollack

Atari, in a dramatic effort to increase distribution of its personal computers, is acquiring a US consumer electronics chain. Atari is to buy the Federated Group, a Southern California company with 67 stores, for more than \$67 million.

Federated is a chain that has been losing money for several quarters. "They needed us for our financial muscle and we needed them for their distribution," said Gregory Pratt, Atari's financial officer.

Atari has essentially decided to buy distribution in the United States because it has been blocked in its attempts to persuade established retailers to carry its wares. Two-thirds of Atari personal computers are sold in Europe.

Major American dealers, such as Computerland and Businessland, have declined to carry Atari machines, partly because Atari has an image as a video game company whose machines would not appeal to corporate customers.

Besides that, the chains have a full lineup with IBM, Apple and Compaq machines and are reluctant to take on another computer that uses entirely different software.

The retailers, perhaps, are also wary of Atari's chairman, Jack Tramiel, who, in his days as head of Commodore, undermined his dealers by slashing prices and moving his computers to mass merchandisers.

The acquisition comes as Atari is preparing to sell several new models aimed at more business-oriented users. It is introducing two more powerful versions of its ST computer, to be called the Mega-ST, as well as an IBM clone.



"Business is war," says Jack Tramiel, the Atari chairman

The company's ST computers sell for a small fraction of the cost of an equivalent Apple Macintosh or IBM PC, but there is less popular software available for the ST.

The company, which raised \$75 million in a Eurobond financing in April, is next looking to buy a semiconductor plant to make the components used in its computers.

Atari is also preparing a range of products not connected with computers that the company plans to introduce next year.

Atari, based in California, boomed during the heyday of the video game and collapsed when the fad ended. Mr Tramiel, who built Commodore into a large home computer company bought Atari in 1984 from Warner Communications.

He is a ferocious penny-pincher whose slogan is "Business is war," and he quickly slashed costs, restored profitability and took Atari public last November. In the second quarter of 1987, Atari earned \$13.5 million, an increase of 39 percent from the period a year earlier, while sales grew 16 percent, to over \$70 million.

Contractors top £1,000 a week

JOBSCENE

By Eddie Conliffe

The information technology (IT) industry in Britain now employs around one million people, more than 100,000 of whom are graduates in IT-related disciplines. Overall the UK information technology sector is growing at about 15 per cent a year.

The availability of graduates and others with suitable skills to enter the business, as countless reports and surveys have noted, falls far short of this expected growth while training, and particularly retraining, is available to fewer than half the people employed in IT, even though there is now a far wider appreciation of the potential benefits of computing among many senior user managements.

Skills shortages fuel salaries, particularly in areas of high demand such as the City. This in turn encourages job migration and leaves gaps in the market. Where and how these gaps are filled gives a clue to changing patterns emanating from the heart of the market.

Programmers and analysts are the nuts and bolts of the computer user. They make up the highest percentages of all types of user IT staff. Without them everything else falls flat. And when they are in short supply, users turn to the job contractors for help.

"Demand for staff is outstripping supply and the situation is getting worse," says Jerry Thompson, a contracts specialist with Computer People. "So companies and institutions are increasingly tapping in to the contract market. Contract staff are used to overcome companies' peaks in demand and to ensure that important systems get completed on time."

That greater use is now made of contract staff is proved by Computer People, which this year became the first predominantly contract company to go public, and grew from a turnover of £12 million to almost £30 million in the three-year period to 1986.

Pay for contract staff has risen by about 10 per cent in the last year. On contract in London, the top rates for senior analysts in the City are now in the region of £1,000 a week, with a top two to three per cent earning even more. The av-



Jerry Thompson: Tapping into the skilled contract market

erage contract analyst's pay is £750-£800 in London, dropping to £550-£600 in the North.

But what trend is the contract market noticing apart from a general demand for temporary staff to fill gaps within IT users?

"The demand for depth of skills is increasing more at the analytical, rather than the programming, end," says Mr Thompson. "At one time programmers dominated, more of

them being required than analysts."

That is soon expected to reverse due to the impact of Fourth Generation Languages. The use of personal computers in business was under-estimated before their potential was understood, and it will be the same, or so it is argued, with 4GL technology.

"There has been a noticeable increase in 4GL staff demands, in particular for those with a depth of experience, with ORACLE being the most popular language. COBOL and PLI are, however, still strong, with COBOL dominating 50 per cent of the requirements."

"Even so, a greater depth of experience, particularly of manufacturers' programming tools, is needed. On the micro computer front there is a continuing increase in demand for networking experience and applications-oriented 'C' programming," says Mr Thompson.

"Users are increasingly looking towards not just the body-shop approach from contract staff, but for complete teams - programmers, analysts and project leaders - with applications background experience. Certain sectors such as insurance and the City are specifically

demanding knowledges of their businesses, sometimes more importantly than the need for technical skills.

"Contract staff with applications expertise and knowledge of structured techniques - Jackson and James Martin methods - achieve higher rates of earnings," he says.

It is not just the numbers of skilled staff that are in short supply or just the technological abilities where employers need to concentrate their staff-training efforts. The fact is that the vast majority of computing staff - from analysts to many top data processing managers - appear to be commercially illiterate.

It crops up time and time again. Staff are cocooned in their computing environments with little overview of the business world they work in.

If there is any point to be made to employers as to where they should be starting to add to their IT staff's skills, it should not just be in areas such as fourth generation languages and structured analysis. It must be in teaching their computing people more about business, management, and the industry in which they work.

Beware the trap of ego mania

Many British companies are set on introducing computers no matter how inappropriate the process. That is the warning from Pergamon Infotech, the computer training and specialist publishers, who say computerization can become an end in itself and that people can develop a "Computer Ego Syndrome".

PI carried out research among companies which had introduced, or attempted to implement, computer strategies. Frame Clothing of Reading, which carries the Mr. Harry suit label, has put into operation a major computer programme in recent years.

"But I had to pull myself up, sharply when we began to consider seriously computer techniques to deal with the selection of garments for transportation," says managing director Harry Rael-Brook.

"A £20,000 system, requiring one operative, was to replace one man who is performing the operation approximately twice as fast as the robotics and without a major capital expense. To have carried through his operation would have been pure ego and one-upmanship."

"Once in control, the computer ego is difficult to stop," says PI managing director Mr Keith Burnett.

"It can ignore the protests and real needs of prospective users and even swamp offices with unsuitable computer terminals."

"This syndrome results from companies wanting to be seen as hi-tech and in a position to keep up with the corporate Joneses rather than a real need for computerization."

Cooperate not compete, plead the Japanese

COMPUTER BRIEFING

Japan has called for more cooperation, not competition, in the worldwide race to find a commercially viable superconductor. The Ministry of International Trade and Industry outlined ways it would try to boost its own effort to discover the magic blend of materials that can conduct electricity with negligible power loss at room temperature.

MITI applied last month for a 1988 budget that includes two billion yen (about £2.5 million) for special loans to private businesses seeking to develop superconductors.

Companies taking out the loans will not have to repay the debt if they failed to come up with a product they could patent.

However, they will be required to share the fruits of any successful research with the government. MITI said superconductors are of such vast benefit to the world that they should be shared like "public goods."

Cheaper micros
Computers based on the 386 chip have more power and speed than most people need, even in business settings. But for anyone who has been frustrated by the relative slowness of sorting through gigantic spread sheets or data base or for anyone who has a sudden yen to design rocket ships, 386 micros are starting to come in at an attractive price.

If you use a computer only for writing letters, balancing the cheque-book and playing games, you do not need a 386 machine. You do not even need a 286 machine, which is often referred to as an AT-class computer. But there is an advantage to 286 machines - they will be able to run the new OS-2 operating system, which everyone says will be wonderful when it finally arrives, maybe next year.

That is one reason to consider getting a 286 machine for the home or small business; it is sure to be around for several years to come, while the old PC-class machines, based on the 386 chip, are being eclipsed by new technology all the time.

Robots still thick
The robot takeover of the world is still a long way off. Robots may be stronger, more consistent and better workers than humans - but they are still thick, or so the British Association for the Advancement of Science annual conference in Belfast was told last week.

Donaldson McCloy, dean of the science and technology faculty of the University of Ulster, said: "There are some things that robots can do better than humans. They can be stronger, they are tireless and can easily work around the clock, seven days a week. Once taught how to do a job they are able to repeat it, practically indefinitely, with a high degree of precision."

"Nevertheless they are particularly stupid, although efforts are now being made to give them a modicum of intelligence. Robots are indeed running rampant, but the third-generation robot with its artificial intelligence is still some way off."

Facing justice
Mistaken identities of crooks could soon be a thing of the past with the introduction of a new photo-search system on trial in Britain, according to an Aberdeen psychology lecturer, Dr Graham Davies, who also spoke at the

British Association conference last week. The computer, which matches photographs against descriptions and photofits, could assist police forces in identification.

Trials with the new British system, FACES - facial analysis computerisation and evaluation system - could eliminate much of the confusion caused by conventional manual searches, said Dr Davies.

The rate of identifying correct photos using the computer went up from 44 per cent to almost 70 per cent. "And," he said, "there were fewer mis-identifications, particularly when the desired face was bland and devoid of distinctive features."

Changes and no system yet devised is impervious to such change.

Line on phones
Another speaker at the British Association conference was a British Telecom researcher, Dr Michael Miller, who spoke of developments towards the next generation of computer-assisted telephones which can guard against obscene calls, translate

Japanese and tell you how much money you have in the bank. He said the phones would display the numbers of people making calls. He also spoke of research towards the translating telephone which will instantly turn

"OK, today we reverse the roles. I'll provide the information, you make the decisions."

what is said in English into Japanese and Japanese back into English.

He said: "These are no pie in the sky dreams. We are actually testing these gadgets in our laboratories today. I have not the slightest doubt that they will be in common use by the year 2000."

Dr Miller also told the conference that the telephone of the future would be linked to desktop computers, dramatically boosting what it could do. "Suppose we call our bank to find out what our overdraft is," he said. "As soon as we have dialled the last digit of the bank's number, the bank's computer will know who is calling and the information will be instantly available."

Fighting crime
A £17 million police computer will cut through time-consuming paperwork and release more officers to fight crime.

The Metropolitan Police Assistant Commissioner, John Smith, said: "A vast amount of useful information about crime, carefully collected, is not being used simply because it is too difficult to get at."

"Too much time is spent compiling and checking forms which could be more usefully spent preventing and detecting crime." The Crime Report Information System - known as CRISIS - will start next year and become fully operational throughout London by 1991. It will give every London policeman instant access to information which, if recorded on paper, would otherwise be inaccessible.

Two important players deal themselves in

The market for computer chips tailor-made for the individual user has traditionally been dominated by relatively small players. But the recent entry of two semiconductor powerhouses - Texas Instruments and Intel - promises to change all that.

The companies have agreed to pool their resources to develop such customized chips - a move that industry experts say could revolutionize the technology of those chips and the marketplace.

Since their introduction in the late 1970s, customized computer chips have become one of the fastest-growing segments of the semiconductor market.

Customized circuits have allowed chip users, which include companies that make computers, radar and telephone equipment, to differentiate their products from those of competitors.

The chips have also reduced the size and cost of electronic products and enable users to offer more features in these products. Because the compact chips perform the same functions as large circuit boards, users can place more of them in a smaller area.

CHIPS

There are several ways to produce customized chips, which are also known as application-specific integrated circuits, or ASICs. In one method, called gate array, the transistors, or so-called gates, are placed on the chips but are not connected.

The designer customizes the chips by connecting the transistors in such a way that they perform the specialized functions. These connections are made in the final stages of production.

In another technique, known as the cell-based approach, the manufacturer compiles an electronic library of circuit building blocks, or cells, that are used to design the chip. Using these cells, a designer constructs chips that meet the specific needs of a user.

Texas Instruments and Intel plan to build a super-library of their top designs. Texas Instruments, based in Dallas, has strength in specialized logic chips, especially those used for speech synthesis and recognition. It will supply 200 chip designs. Intel, based in

California will contribute 150 chips.

The competition in the customized chip sector has become fierce in the past two years as revenues from standard semiconductors have plummeted because of foreign competition and excess capacity.

In the past, this market has been dominated by such smaller players as LSI Logic and VLSI Technology. In recent years, the Japanese semiconductor makers have entered the market. Among them, Fujitsu, NEC and Toshiba have scored success.

There are also substantial risks and costs to developing these computer chips. It takes six to eight weeks to develop chips using the gate-array method and about 10 weeks using the cell approach. Analysts said that those designers with the most extensive libraries could substantially reduce the risks and costs of tailoring computer chips.

Under the agreement, the companies will contribute peripherals, register files, memory compilers, logic and application-specific processors, microcontrollers and microprocessors.

EVENTS

■ IBM System User Show, September 2-4, Olympia, London

■ Personal Computer World Show, September 23-27, Olympia, London (01-488 1951)

■ DEC User Show, October 6-8, Barbican, London

■ Computer Graphics 87, October 13-15, Wembley Conference Centre, London (01-868 4466)

■ Desktop Publishing Show, October 15-17, Business Design Centre, Islington, London (061-456 8383)

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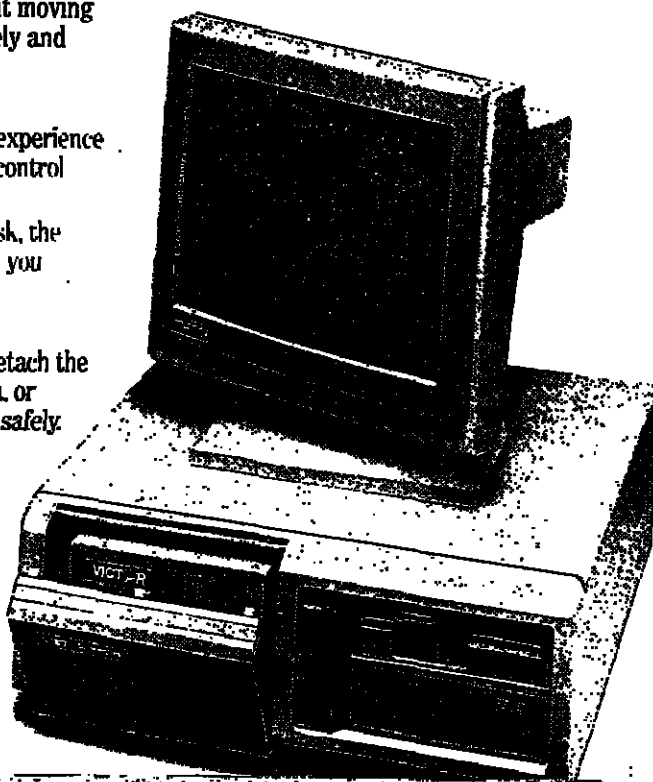
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700 jobs promised

By Pat Sweet

McDonnell Douglas Information Systems is spending £12 million on expanding its Hemel Hempstead headquarters and is looking to recruit 700 new employees over the next three years.

"We plan to recruit 200 professional technical staff and some 100 administrative staff. These include software design engineers, applications development staff, communications and networking experts, as well as office and production staff," UK country manager Martin Jones explained.

"Additionally we plan to recruit 400 extra staff at our 30 locations throughout England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to support our regional activities, principally in sales and support," he said.

Mr Jones estimates that the company has achieved a compound annual growth rate of around 30 per cent in the UK over the past 10 years. It currently employs 1800 people in the UK, in manufacturing and research and development work, as well as

sales and marketing functions. Much of McDonnell Douglas's growth is attributable to its success in the market for Pick systems. Pick is an operating system developed in the mid-seventies which allows programming to be carried out using English language-style commands.

Around 50 per cent of McDonnell Douglas's business comes from the public sector and the firm has systems in more than 150 local authorities, one third of the police forces, 12 of the 14 regional health authorities and central government departments, including the MoD.

Mr Jones identified computer-aided design and manufacture (Cadcam) and geographic information systems as two major fields where new staff will be needed.

McDonnell Douglas also sees digital mapping techniques as being of increasing interest to its local authority user base who need to keep detailed information on local facilities for administrative environmental reasons.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

ROYAL COLLEGE
OF SURGEONS
OF ENGLAND

Secretary of the College

Applications are invited for the post of Secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, which becomes vacant in July 1988 on the retirement of Mr R S Johnson-Gilbert MA, OBE, HonFRCS, HonFFRCS, HonFDSRCS. Candidates should be available for employment from January 1988.

The Secretary is the senior administrator of this charitable, professional and educational organisation with 18000 Fellows and over 250 staff. Applicants should therefore have extensive experience at a senior level. The salary will be within the Universities professional range in excess of £25,000.

An information pack is available from the Personnel Office, Royal College of Surgeons of England, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PN. The closing date for applications is 30 September 1987.

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Executive Officer to
Chief Executive

£18,168 - £19,371
(Ref: 226/1001033/7)

Local Government is changing in Tower Hamlets and the key appointment is to provide high calibre management support to our recently appointed Chief Executive, Charles Lea, and to ensure the effective operation of his office.

For the right person this will be a demanding but rewarding job. Essential tasks will be establishing good management practices and systems, researching and briefing the Chief Executive on matters affecting Local Government generally and in particular the Authority, and deputising for the Chief Executive at meetings and working parties.

If you feel able to respond to this challenge you must have a proven track record of achieving targets and change in a large organisation. Excellent communication skills, experience of dealing with people and organisations on sensitive issues and an expertise in problem solving are therefore essential. Energy and drive are more important than any specific background.

The Council is decentralising its services and all offers of appointments are made on the understanding that job location, duties and responsibilities are liable to change.

Applications for the above post are invited from qualified and experienced persons. Application forms and job descriptions may be obtained from Personnel Reception, Town Hall, Patriot Square, London E2 9LN, or telephone our answering service on 01-961 0077.

Please quote the job title and reference. Completed forms must be returned by 14.9.87.

Applicants are considered on their suitability for the post regardless of sex, sexual orientation, religion, racial origin, marital status, disability or age.



LONDON BOROUGH OF
TOWER HAMLETS

COMMITTEE OFFICERS
(Institute Committee Secretariat)
Post Number ES211X

Applicants should be a graduate or hold a professional qualification in Public Administration. Preference will be given to applicants who have experience of research degree administration and committee servicing in an academic institution.

Personal qualities required are organisational ability, tact, judgement, a lucid prose style, and a commitment to the idea that academic administration exists to serve and facilitate teaching and learning.

The commencing salary will be within Scale 5 £8,790-£9,654 depending upon experience and qualifications of the person appointed.

A generous relocation allowance is offered.

For further details and application form please contact the Staffing Officer, Dorset Institute of Higher Education, Wallisdon Road, Poole, Dorset BH12 5BB. Telephone Bournemouth 0202 542111 Ext:5031. Closing Date: 11 September 1987.

AUSTRALIA
CSIRO

INSTITUTE DIRECTORS

The Board of CSIRO has approved a major restructuring of Australia's largest scientific research organization to align the Institutes and Divisions more closely with the client industries. The goal is to maintain CSIRO as a leading scientific organization, but improve the application of research results for economic and social benefit.

The Board now wishes to appoint to the key positions of Institute Directors persons with outstanding leadership qualities, significant backgrounds in science and technology and considerable experience in the management of research and development at a senior level.

The six Institutes in which the Organization's research will be carried out by the divisions are -

- Information and Communication Technologies
- Industrial Technologies
- Minerals, Energy and Construction
- Animal Production and Processing
- Plant Production and Processing
- Natural Resources and Environment

A Director of an Institute will be responsible to the Chief Executive for the strategic management of the Institute, setting strategic directions, allocating resources to the constituent Divisions and developing relationships with industry, government and the community to promote the Institute's research and the transfer of research results to industry and other users.

An attractive salary and conditions package will be offered.

Further information can be obtained from the Chief Executive, Dr Keith Boardman, FRS.

Expressions of interest should be addressed to:

The Chief Executive
CSIRO
PO Box 225
DICKSON, ACT 2602
AUSTRALIA

To be received no later than October 8, 1987

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You will be a leading figure in the Scottish Museum world and will play a major role in the development of scientific, industrial and social history disciplines in a museum context.

You must have significant and proven experience in at least one of the Department's interests together with substantial administrative experience.

Salary £24,765 - £28,215.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 24 September 1987) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/7314.

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OF SCOTLAND

An eye on your future

Opticians' fears that they would be driven out of the business of dispensing spectacles by the new legislation giving a share of the market to the unqualified have proved groundless, says
Joan Llewelyn Owens

When legislation was introduced two years ago, enabling unqualified people to supply spectacles to a recent prescription, there were some fears for the future of dispensing opticians. It was thought that the market might be flooded by every Tom, Dick and Harry setting up shop and catering for the masses with cut-price frames and lenses.

It has not worked out that way. Some non-registered sellers of spectacles opened shops, but many have since gone out of business, the public having decided that they want to go to someone who has been properly trained and holds a professional qualification.

Dispensing opticians are registered with the General Optical Council as qualified to fit and supply spectacles and other optical appliances. This involves a precise series of measurements. They must also know which lenses and frames are suitable for a particular person and, indeed, for a particular purpose. From TV we are all aware that snooker players need a very different type of spectacles from those they wear for reading.

Dispensing opticians do not examine eyes. That is the function of optometrists (ophthalmic opticians) and of ophthalmologists and ophthalmic medical practitioners, who are doctors concerned with eye care.

You can qualify as a dispensing optician in one of three ways. Two-year full-time courses are available at the City and East London College, Bradford and Ilkley Community College or Glasgow College of Technology. The alternatives are a three-year day-release course with a three-year correspondence course, combined in both cases with employment. After the full-time course, newly qualified dispensing opticians work for a year under supervision with a registered optometrist or dispensing optician.

Minimum educational qualifications are five O-levels (or GCSE or equivalent) with passes in mathematics or physics and English language or literature. One of the other three subjects must normally be science-based.

Unfortunately, it is not easy to get a place on a course. Mo Jalie, head of the Department of Applied Optics in the City and East London College, had a record intake of 94 on his full-time course last year and says that the course



A surgeon performing a 24-hour turnaround cataract operation

starting in September 1988 is almost full already. The Association of British Dispensing Opticians accepts between 150 and 200 students a year for the correspondence course it runs; the numbers are limited to the places colleges can provide for the compulsory periods of block-release.

If you can get training, job prospects are good. In the past two or three years, large companies such as Boots have decided to set up optical practices in association with their stores. This has created a demand for further qualified staff. Also, younger optometrists, trained in the recognition of disease of the eye, prefer to concentrate on refraction (eye examination) and advice on eye care, and leave advice on and fitting of lenses and frames to the dispensing optician.

Experienced opticians
are often appointed
as practice managers

When you learn that about 6,000 optometrists and only 3,000 dispensing opticians are practising, you realize that there is scope for numbers to be doubled.

Today, most dispensing opticians are employed by practices which are part of a large chain. These companies often appoint an experienced dispensing optician as manager of the practice. Openings also occur with prescription houses and for sales representatives with frame manufacturers and importers.

Few dispensing opticians are employed full-time in the health service, where the pay is not comparable with salaries paid by High Street practices. A dispensing optician can average £15,000 with experience.

The opportunity also exists to set up your own practice, as Mrs Rosalind Kirk, vice-president of the Association of

British Dispensing Opticians, and her husband have done. Their practice at Reading in Berkshire is run as a medical eye centre, and they work not with optometrists, but with ophthalmic medical practitioners, making up spectacles or contact lenses to their prescriptions.

These spectacles are of all types, including bifocals and varifocals, contact lenses and low-vision aids for the partially sighted. These aids consist of a system of lenses which make up a mini telescope. Dispensing opticians must also ascertain the purpose for which spectacles are to be used.

There are even special spectacles for shooting, with sodium glass to increase definition when looking at the sky. Often, when someone needs swimming goggles, the lenses prescribed have to be modified, because the density of water is more than the density of air.

Working out what power of lens is required for special purposes like this is one of the skills in which dispensing opticians are trained.

Mrs Kirk explained that when measuring someone's eyes for a pair of glasses, the centres of the lenses must be over the centre of the patient's eyes. Otherwise the person will feel discomfort. Dispensing opticians measure the face because no two faces are the same.

They also have to take into account the size of lens needed, the length of the sides of the frames, and the angle at which these sides leave the front because one ear may be higher than the other.

Once the lens and frames have been chosen, the measurements are sent, together with the prescription, to the laboratory or prescription house. On their return, the spectacles are checked, and patient fitted and required adjustments made. Those dispensing opticians who fit contact lenses have usually taken a higher diploma. This is not mandatory but will probably become so shortly.

Mrs Kirk has also worked with the technician from Queen Mary's, Roehampton, who made up prostheses (perhaps a false nose or half a face) for people who were badly disfigured. Usually these prostheses were attached to heavy spectacle frames, which helped to conceal the join between the prosthesis and the patient's own skin.

Wherever they work, dispensing opticians need to like people and be patient with them, for they will meet all kinds. They must pay tremendous attention to detail and keep up with all the latest developments. Patients often come up with new queries, and the phone is always ringing. The profession is a particularly good one for women, many of whom return to it after taking a few years off to bring up their children.

Free careers literature is available from the Association of British Dispensing Opticians, 22 Nottingham Place, London W1M 4AT, or the General Optical Council, 41 Harley Street, London W1N 2DJ.

Next week: the work of optometrists

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Two demanding specialist vacancies carrying administrative and curatorial responsibility for the 18th Century Collections and the 20th Century Collections. Both posts require a wide understanding of curatorial work and a demonstrable, scholarly ability in at least one area of the Department's collection.

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Salary as Curator Grade 7: £16,495 - £21,755.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 21 September 1987) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/421382.



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Due to the forthcoming retirement of the present incumbent, the Institute of Medical Laboratory Sciences wishes to appoint a successor responsible to its Council for the administrative functions of the services to its 17,000 members.

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Experience and qualifications in one or more of the following areas would be appropriate:

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Salary negotiable but not less than £30,000 depending on qualifications and experience.

Further details are obtainable from:

The President
INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES
12 Queen Anne Street
London W1M 0AU

Closing date for applications 9th October, 1987.

BRITISH LUNG FOUNDATION
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

We require an enthusiastic person to assist the Director of this new charity, established to raise funds from research into diseases of the lung. As a member of a small team, you will provide administrative support at the Chelsea headquarters, assist in the establishment of new branches and help organise external events. Good communication and organisational skills are required. Experience of personal computers and financial records is desirable.

Salary: c£9,000 per annum.
Please contact Jenny Watton,
British Lung Foundation,
12a Onslow Gardens, London, SW7 3AP.
Tel: 01-581 0226 (24 hours).

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37 hour, 5 day week. Job description available.

Applications to be made in writing, quoting Post B14, stating age, experience and present post to the Superintendent, The Police Station, Stonebridge Road, Grantham. Closing date 28th August 1987.

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Application form available from Personnel Department, Hereford Hospital, Hereford, Shropshire WR6 6JH. Tel: (089 582) 3737 ext 624. Closing date: September 11, 1987.

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR
OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Salary: £27,699 - £30,468
(pay award pending)

Applications are invited for this post which will become vacant in October, 1987.

Lancashire's Social Services Department comprises of some 10,000 staff serving a population of over 1,300,000. The County Council is currently reviewing many aspects of its provision of social services with a view to developing progressive services to meet the challenge of the future. It is expected that the new Deputy Director will make a full contribution to that process and to the Management of the Department as a whole.

Applicants are sought who are highly motivated and can demonstrate strong and effective leadership qualities. They should possess sound professional and managerial judgement, a commitment to high standards of practice and a proven record of positive achievement in social services. Applicants must have social services qualifications and substantial experience of managing social services.

The Director of Social Services, Tom Foster, will welcome informal enquiries on 0772 264390.

Further particulars and application forms are obtainable from the Chief Executive/Clerk (P251/56), Christ Church, Preston, County Hall, Preston, PR1 8XJ. Closing date: 21st September, 1987.



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SECRETARY

The College is a professional organisation conducting examinations for doctors wishing to specialise in obstetrics and gynaecology.

The Assistant Examinations Secretary will be required to assist with the organisation of the College Membership and Diploma examinations which are held in the United Kingdom and overseas. Applicants should have a secretarial or administrative background and be at least 25 years of age. The person appointed will be required to work to deadlines. The salary will be £9,127 to £10,952 according to age and experience.

The College enjoys excellent working conditions which include free lunches, a flexible 35 hour week, 21 days leave plus public holidays and car parking. Please contact Mrs Anita Simmonds for an application form and details on 01-262 5425 ext 223 or RCOG, 27 Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RG.

CAMPAIGN
COORDINATOR

Co-ordinator required by UK Committee for Gender Equality for a full time position. The post will be to advise and assist in the development of a campaign to raise awareness of gender equality issues. The post holder will be responsible for the day to day running of the campaign and will be required to work to deadlines. The salary will be £9,127 to £10,952 according to age and experience.

CUMBRIA TRUST
FOR NATURE
CONSERVATION
DIRECTOR

Appointments are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons for the above newly created post. Salary in range £10,000 to £12,000 p.a. Further particulars and forms of application from: Cumbria Trust for Nature Conservation, Church Street, Ambleside LA22 0BU.

مركز العمل

01-481 1066

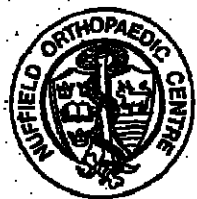
PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

01-481 1066

HEALTH CARE



WE ARE GOING PLACES. ARE YOU?



The Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, internationally famous, is looking for enthusiastic, innovative nurses.

Due to the waiting list initiative by the Government and the hospital's expanded joint replacement programme, we have vacancies for:

R.G.N.s, full-time and part-time

This friendly, progressive centre provides education for Nurses, Doctors and Para-Medical professions. The Nuffield team is committed to progress, we have recently introduced a professional Development Nurse who offers personal clinical education programmes and facilitates a Staff Nurse Development Course. We are at present working towards using a nursing model and have team nursing underway. It is our belief that nurses should have a rewarding career at clinical level; if it's yours then

THE Nuffield Orthopaedic is the place to be. for further information and/or informal visit please contact

Oxfordshire Health Authority
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
Mrs J.M. Wakeley,
Director of Nursing Services,
The Nuffield Orthopaedic
Centre, Headington, Oxford.
Tel: Oxford (0865) 64811 ext 310.

OXFORD REGIONAL SCHOOL OF RADIOGRAPHY A TEACHING CAREER

Applications are invited for either a teacher or student teacher vacancy for the Radiography Department

TEACHER

Ref No. V129/87

Salary Scale: £13,080 pa - £14,740 pa

The successful applicant will be a TDCR qualified person, responsible to the Radiography Principal. An enthusiastic teacher who will undertake a full teaching programme and assist in the general running of the school. Student teachers taking TDCR in October '87 welcome to apply.

STUDENT TEACHER

Ref No. V130/87

Salary Scale: £7,895 pa - £8,805 pa

The successful applicant will be a radiographer who wishes to join us in a branch of the profession which is both challenging and rewarding. You will be offered a wide range of teaching, administrative and practical experience, together with the opportunity to study for the -

Further Education Teachers Certificate (City and Guilds) at the Oxford College of Further Education

Teachers Diploma at the College of Radiographers.

Higher Diploma of the College of Radiographers (if not already held)

Ideally candidates should have a minimum of 4 years' clinical experience

The school is situated in the Academic Centre at the John Radcliffe Hospital - one of the most modern teaching hospitals in the country with excellent facilities for both staff and students. We have an annual intake of nine therapy and twenty four diagnostic students

Practical radiography training is undertaken in two Radiography departments, the Churchill Hospital, Oxford, where there is also a classroom and two teachers' offices, and Northampton General Hospital. School staff regularly visit the students in these centres and must therefore be a car user/ driver. A mileage allowance is payable

Further information may be obtained in contacting Mrs A. Travis, Radiography Principal, Oxford Regional School of Radiography, Academic Centre, John Radcliffe Hospital, Headington, Oxford OX3 9DU. Tel: (0865) 617362

For further details and an application form please contact the Recruitment Officer at the address below (quoting the appropriate reference number).

Closing date: 25th September 1987



Oxford Regional Health Authority

Old Road, Headington, Oxford OX3 7LF. Tel: Oxford 64861. Ext 228/268



The British School of Osteopathy

PATRON H.R.H. The Princess Royal, GCVO.

Have you thought of Osteopathy?

There is great demand for the services of Registered Osteopaths: they are independent professional practitioners who are trained to consider the functioning of the whole body as well as diagnosing and treating particular areas of malfunction. In many areas of the country patients have to travel long distances to reach a Registered Osteopath - these gaps must be filled.

The British School of Osteopathy has been in Westminster since 1917 and is now in specially adapted accommodation just off Trafalgar Square. The four-year Diploma Course includes a four-term pre-clinical course and at least 2,000 hours are spent in the School's own out-patient clinics. All tuition in the clinical course is under the supervision of practising Registered Osteopaths.

The B.S.O. Diploma in Osteopathy. Holders of the B.S.O. Diploma (D.O.) are eligible to apply for membership of the General Council & Register of Osteopaths (M.R.O.).

The British School of Osteopathy
1-4 Suffolk Street,
London SW1T 4HB
Telephone: 01-930 9254

Admission requirements are broadly the same as for degree courses - at least two A-levels (including Chemistry and preferably Biology) - and three O-levels. Entry in September 1987 is still possible. Requirements and further details may be obtained from
Principal: Sir Norman Lindsay, Hon. D.Ed.,
M.Sc., G.Chem., F.R.S.C.

FINANCIAL



The Royal College of Midwives
15 Mansfield Street, London W1M 0BE
Tel: 01-580 6523/4/5 & 01-637 8823

A vacancy has arisen for a DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

The College is the Professional Organisation and Trade Union for midwives throughout the United Kingdom, having headquarters in London, Edinburgh, Swansea and Belfast.

The Director will be responsible for general administration including Finance, Membership and Office Services at the College's headquarters in London.

He/she may be from a variety of backgrounds and will have strong personal qualities, considerable relevant experience, and an understanding of computerisation of records.

Salary will be within the range £18,400 - £25,900 (plus £1,201 London Weighting currently under review).

Further information and an application form may be obtained from the Administrative Officer, on 01 580 6523 Ext. 201 or 215. The closing date for return of completed applications is Wednesday, 30th September, 1987.

LEGAL



Working in Education

Legal Assistants

£12,639 to £14,559 inc.
(pending pay award)

GENERAL LAW DIVISION

Ref: CL/LSG.

To advise on a wide range of legal matters, excluding those relating to litigation and property dealing, in respect of the Authority's functions and responsibilities.

LITIGATION DIVISION

Ref: CL/LS/L.

To prepare, conduct and assist in civil litigation, anticipated civil litigation or arbitration proceedings.

Candidates for all posts should be barristers or solicitors or Fellows of the Institute of Legal Executives with at least 2 years recent practical experience relevant to the main duties and responsibilities; or be able to demonstrate that by their training experience and ability they have acquired or can rapidly acquire the skill and knowledge to carry out the main duties and responsibilities. Candidates should also have the proven ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing.

For further details and an application form, please write to PER/PS1 (Support Services), Room 366, The County Hall, London SE1 7PB, stating which post(s) you are applying for. Closing date: 18th September 1987.



Inner London
Education Authority

ILEA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

LEGAL

Cleveland
County Council

CLEVELAND CONSTABULARY

Re-advertisement

**Assistant Force
Solicitor Up to £16,368
(£16,740 from 1st February
1988)**

Applications are invited for this interesting and challenging post from highly motivated competent and experienced Solicitors. The Assistant Force Solicitor will be responsible to and assist the Force Solicitor in providing effective legal advice to the Constabulary. Sound knowledge of Court practices and procedures are essential as duties include advocacy relating to licensing matters, enquiries and tribunals, attendance at and advising as to the implementation of Police Policy when the Borough Councils consider Public Entertainment Licences.

The successful applicant must be able to communicate effectively and establish good working relationships at all levels.

Although Cleveland contains areas of industrial development, it is surrounded by areas of outstanding natural beauty such as the North Yorkshire Moors and Yorkshire Dales.

The County is also well equipped with good schools, excellent shopping and leisure facilities and an integrated transport network.

A relocation expenses package consists of the payment of all removal expenses and up to £1,250 towards legal and other costs.

Previous applicants need not re-apply.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM AND SHOULD BE RETURNED TO CIVILIAN PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT, POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS, LADGATE LANE, MIDDLESBOROUGH, CLEVELAND, TS8 9EN (TEL: (0642) 326326) by 14TH SEPTEMBER, 1987.

Applicants who do not receive written communication within five weeks of the closing date should presume that their application has been unsuccessful.

We are an equal opportunities employer. All applicants who have the support of the Displacement Resettlement Officer will be granted an interview.

WORLD INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION



ORGANISATION
MONTAINE DE LA
PROPRIÉTÉ
INTELLECTUELLE

The World Intellectual Property Organization (a Specialized Agency of the United Nations) has an opening at its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, for a

SPECIALIST IN PATENT LAW AND RELATED TREATIES

to head the Industrial Property Law Section.

Candidates must have a university degree in law, or equivalent legal training; extensive experience in industrial property law, preferably including experience at the international level; excellent English and good knowledge of French; be under the age of 55.

Send detailed résumé (with photograph), quoting reference P703 (A), by October 30th 1987, to:

The Personnel Section, World Intellectual Property Organization, 34 Chemin des Colombettes, CH-1211 Geneva 20, (Switzerland).

Senior Solicitor

up to £17,000 p.a.

To advise on education, library, personnel and social services matters. This is an excellent opportunity to develop your legal and committee experience in a friendly office in this attractive County. Generous moving allowances (up to £3,500) and lodgings payments.

To find out more, please ring Oliver Holder, Assistant County Secretary (ext 3006) or Peter Pilgrim, Senior Solicitor (ext 3052)

Application form and further details from the County Secretary and Solicitor Wiltshire County Council, County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8JN. Tel: 02214 3641 ext. 3006. Applications to be returned by 18th September 1987.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

Wiltshire

SOLICITOR

Grade POA £13,890 p.a. - £15,507 p.a.
OR POB £15,900 p.a. - £17,511 p.a. inclusive.

(Starting salary is dependent upon qualifications and experience) Required for a busy Legal Department in a large London Borough to undertake a wide variety of work over the whole field of the council's functions, with emphasis on child care law and litigation at all levels.

Candidates must have a positive and constructive approach and be able to work without supervision. Whilst knowledge of Local Government Law would be advantageous it is not essential.

You may be entitled to relocation expenses which will include 100% legal fees involved for house sale and purchase, 100% removal expenses, temporary lodging allowance plus a settling in allowance of £925 in respect of incidental expenses incurred.

Application form and information packages are available from the Personnel Division, Civic Centre, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 3UW. Telephone Uxbridge 50589 (24 hour answering service available). Please quote Reference Number LA714/87C. Closing date 18 September 1987.



Hillingdon as an equal opportunities employer welcomes applications from candidates irrespective of race, sex, marital status, age, sexual orientation or disability.

TO PLACE YOUR
PUBLIC
APPOINTMENTS
IN
THE TIMES
PLEASE TELEPHONE
01-481 1066
NOW.

NEW YORK CITY U.S.A.

FOR
RNS

THE PLACE TO BE!
THE PLACE TO WORK!

KINGSBROOK JEWISH MEDICAL CENTER
A BETTER HOSPITAL
BECAUSE IT DARES TO BE DIFFERENT
SEEKS 20 REGISTERED NURSES

We Are A Unique Acute
And Long-Term Care Medical Center
Located in Brooklyn, New York City
A University Affiliated Modern Institution
With 2000 Employees, Just 45 Minutes
From Broadway or The Statue Of Liberty

ANNUAL SALARY SCALE
DEPENDENT ON EDUCATION,
SHIFT ASSIGNMENT

£17,999 to £18,233 Appx.
(\$28,798 to \$29,173)

PLUS

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH PLAN • AIR FARE ADVANCE
LOW COST HOUSING • ORIENTATION PROGRAM
TAX SAVING PLAN • IN-SERVICE TRAINING • TUITION PLAN
NEW YORK LICENSURE PREPARATION • UNIFORMS

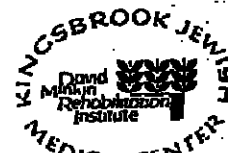
INTERVIEWS IN OCTOBER 1987 IN LONDON
AND MANCHESTER • FOR INFORMATION AND
BROCHURES INTERESTED CANDIDATES
SHOULD SEND RESUME OR

CURRICULUM VITAE TO:

BERNARD ORNSTEIN
DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL

KINGSBROOK JEWISH MEDICAL CENTER
585 SCHENECTADY AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK CITY 11203 U.S.A.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/F
A NON-SECTARIAN INSTITUTION



CALIFORNIA DREAMING?

Make it reality with the experts

We have been supplying a prestige group of Hospitals in San Francisco with UK/Irish nurses since 1981. So if you are RGN and have

CGFNS or are entered for the exam or hold a US Licence You can earn \$30,000 minimum (\$20,000 approx.)

Telephone 01-789 3132

or

Write: Gina Blackney,
CNS Recruitment,
FREEPOST, 154 High Street,
Putney, London SW15 1BR



SAN FRANCISCO

01-481 1066

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

01-481 1066

LEGAL

LEGAL ADVISER

Up to £15,000

Birmingham

In recent times, travel has become one of the UK's most dynamic and competitive industries. One of the most successful companies to emerge is West Midlands Travel, with a current turnover in excess of £100 millions, which provides a comprehensive public transport service to over 400 million passengers a year.

Naturally, in a company the size of ours, the need to provide effective legal advice to our Managers is paramount — and that's where you come in. You will assist and deputise for the Company Secretary, by discipline a Solicitor, in providing a broad-based legal service. Your major contribution will be in the fields of commercial and company law, though you will be called on to advise on Employment, Property, Transport and Common Law.

This is an important role which will appeal to a qualified Solicitor or Barrister. In addition, at least 1 year's relevant experience as a Company Secretary would be ideal, but if you have been recently admitted or called and have undertaken commercial training, we would like to hear from you.

Salary is enhanced by a wide range of benefits, and relocation assistance will be provided in appropriate cases. The role offers considerable scope for personal development.

Interested? For further information please telephone our Consultant, Barrie With on 021-455 6255 (office hours) or 06845 66477 (evenings) or write to him with full CV quoting reference number LS 551, Austin Knight Selection, Tricorn House, 51-53 Hagley Road, Birmingham B16 8TP.

West Midlands Travel
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Fully Qualified
COURT CLERK

Up to £14,583 pa (increase pending)

We know exactly the sort of candidate we're looking for. Ambitious. Determined. Career-minded.

A Solicitor or Barrister, you have sound experience as a Court Clerk or as a Senior Court Clerk. You're now looking for a post that will give you plenty of opportunity to further your career and 'round off' your experience. You want to progress quickly up the career ladder you've planned for yourself.

We think this is just the opportunity you had in mind!

Based at **Loughborough**, you will be expected to travel around the county of Leicestershire acting as Relief Clerk whenever the need arises: you will therefore gain extensive experience across the whole spectrum in both busy city Courts and also in rural Courts.

You'll find volume, variety and a complexity of cases with us. In return, we expect hard work, dedication and self-motivation.

An essential car-users allowance is available and INC conditions of service apply. Generous relocation will be paid where applicable.

If you're looking for variety, scope and progression, we'd like to hear from you. Apply in the first instance for an application form to Mrs. K. Tolton on Leicester (0533) 549922 ext. 7803. Leicestershire Magistrates' Courts Committee, PO Box 1, Town Hall, Leicester LE1 9BE. Closing date for receipt of completed application forms is Friday September 18th 1987.

Leicestershire

ASSISTANT
PLANNING OFFICERSALARY £9,573 to £10,609
Based in Reading

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for this post in the Water Resources Section. You will join a small team involved in the planning, assessment and promotion of regional water resources and also in water use studies and demand forecasting for the Thames Water region. Extensive use is made of mathematical modelling and other appropriate analytical techniques.

The successful applicant should be a numerate graduate wishing to start a career in the water industry. A qualification including water resources and/or hydrology is likely to be an advantage, but a flexible approach together with well developed computing skills is essential. The work will cover the full range of activities of the group but the emphasis is likely to be on water use studies and demand forecasting.

We offer a 35 hour week (flexi-time), a minimum of 22 days holiday, a subsidised staff restaurant, a lively sports and social club and a pension scheme with interchange facilities. Application forms can be obtained from the Personnel Director, Room 312, Kings Meadow House, c/o Nugent House, Vastern Road, Reading, RG1 8DR. Telephone: Darren Easton, Reading 593822.

Please quote ref: RM110/5805
Closing date: 15 September 1987
THAMES WATER



RUNNING WATER FOR YOU

TECHNICAL

PRINCIPAL ESTATES
SURVEYORUp to £17,259 pa + £216 Local Allowance
(pay award pending)

Basingstoke is a prosperous, rapidly expanding town in the attractive north of Hampshire, with excellent road and rail links with London, the south coast and the West Country.

The Council is the largest property owner in the Borough, with an extensive property portfolio currently producing an annual income of around £4 million. The management of this important asset is the responsibility of the Chief Estates Surveyor, who leads a busy team of 7 Surveyors and 3 support staff carrying out all aspects of professional work.

Following internal promotion, we are looking for the Principal Estates Surveyor to deputise for the Chief Estates Surveyor and undertake responsibility for the overall management of the Council's major industrial and commercial land holdings. You will also assist the Chief Estates Surveyor with the promotion of Basingstoke, the management of the section and its work and deal with any particular complex tasks which may occur.

You should be a Chartered Surveyor with a minimum of 3 years post qualification experience in all aspects of public sector property management. Sound commercial and managerial judgement together with the ability to work under pressure is essential.

Among the benefits we offer are a flexible working hours scheme, relocation expenses in excess of £4,000 (where appropriate), subsidised staff restaurant, free car parking facilities and reduced cost BUPA membership.

Written details of the post can be obtained by telephoning our 24 hour answering service on Basingstoke 479433.

Applications, not forms, naming 2 referees should be sent to arrive by 14th September to the Personnel Manager, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2AJ.

BASINGSTOKE & DEANE Borough Council

PROPERTY

ARCHITECT/QUANTITY
SURVEYOR/

ENGINEER/PRACTICE MANAGERS

Salary around £20,000

We have multi-professional Design Studio which embraces all aspects of visual and environmental considerations from Graphics and Interior Design to Buildings and Landscape. It is a business like unit with employees on:

- Good quality of design.
- Meeting the objectives of Service Departments to and agreed brief, budget and timescale.
- Enhancement of 'Pride of Place' and visual awareness.
- Value for Money.

In order to achieve these objectives, we wish to appoint three Practice Managers who will have:

- an Architectural, Quantity Surveying or Services Engineering background
- commitment to design and modern management techniques
- an ability to combine the best in commercial practice with a sense of service to the community
- a proven management and design track record defined career objectives.

If you think you can work in a team with other professionals and meet the challenging demands of the posts and influence the quality of life in Cambridgeshire, write saying how, and enclose a current c.v. to Colin Grindley, Director of Property, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge CB3 0AP by 15th September, 1987.

If you wish to find out more about the posts, please telephone Viren Sahai OBE, Dip TP, ARIBA on Cambridge (0223) 317323.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE
An Equal Opportunity Employer

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE

A. SENIOR ARCHITECT

Grade PO1/2 £12,519-£13,890
From £2,288 £12,804-£14,205B. ARCHITECT/
ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT
(TEMPORARY)Grade SO1/2 £11,070-£12,882
From £2,288 £11,322-£13,173

For Post A, you will join a Section of architects and architectural technicians engaged on a variety of projects including new-build, adaptation and conservation projects in an office with a considerable record of achievement. Candidates will be expected to demonstrate a broad and thorough experience in design, construction and contract management.

A casual car user allowance is payable.

Post B is a temporary post on a one-year contract, with a possibility of extension to two years, to work in a design team as described for Post A. A newly qualified apprentice would be paid on the SO1 scale (£11,070-£11,805); a registered architect would be appointed to SO2 (£12,156-£12,882).

A Union Membership Agreement is in operation and applies to these posts.

The County Council is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications irrespective of race, sex, marital status or disability. Application forms, which must be returned by Monday, 14th September 1987, from the Acting Head of Department, Department of Architecture, County Hall, Durham, DH1 1UH to Mrs. White (091) 306 4411, ext. 2751.

Durham
COUNTY COUNCIL

ASSISTANT
ANALYST/PROGRAMMER

* CAREER GRADE TO £11,805 *

If you have at least 5 GCE passes including one at A level, but preferably a degree in computing or a related discipline, this job should interest you.

You will be involved in assisting in the support and development of computer applications on the Department's PRIME 9555 mini, IBM PCs, and the County's shared IBM 3085 mainframe. Programming languages include FORTRAN 77, Database and 4GLs, and BASIC. Use is also made of LOTUS 123, ORASE, SPSS-X, and CAD software. Your other duties will be to assist in the day to day operation of the PRIME 9555, and to advise users on the use of the computer facilities.

You will be working in an attractive part of the County as well as having the following employment benefits:

- ★ Substantial relocation package available where appropriate.
- ★ The opportunity to participate in the BCS Professional Development training scheme.
- ★ Excellent conditions of service with up to 25 days holiday and 11 public holidays.
- ★ Good wide ranging experience of computer services in a major technical department.

Application form only, available with further details from the Director of Personnel Services, PO Box 279, Five Hives, The Haymarket, Bristol BS2 7HE, or telephone Bristol 258555 (Answerphone on this number after office hours).

Please quote reference number ENG/537/172 when asking for forms which must be returned by 21/9/87. Highways and Engineering Department

Avon
COUNTY COUNCIL

Assistant
Director(CAPITAL WORKS
& TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT)
£22,272 x £558(4) — £24,504 pa.

A new Department of Planning & Highways has been established in Wiltshire County Council as a result of a review of technical departments.

An Assistant Director is required to head a restructured Capital Works and Traffic Management Division, which is one of three divisions within the Department. The postholder will be responsible for capital works consisting of road, bridge, refuse disposal facility design and construction; landscaping; computing and programme co-ordination; and traffic management including road safety.

The successful applicant will be a Chartered Engineer, with a minimum of 10 years post qualification experience, who has the management ability to lead and motivate a division of over 80 staff. The Assistant Director will play a full and active role in the Department's management team.

A moving home allowance of up to £3,500, together with a lodging allowance, is payable in approved cases.

Further details and application form are available from the County Personnel Officer, Wiltshire County Council, County Hall, Trowbridge, BA14 5JN. (Telephone: Trowbridge 3641 Ext. 2049). The closing date is 15th September 1987. Please quote reference P&H 87-529.

THE COUNTY COUNCIL IS AN
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

Wiltshire

ADMINISTRATION

ARTS DEVELOPMENT
OFFICER

£12,156 - £12,882

Liverpool's cultural scene is vibrant and exciting. To show its commitment to the arts the City Council seeks an arts officer with energy and ideas for a new senior post in the City Libraries.

In addition to advising on the development of arts policies and the promotion of arts activities in Liverpool, the successful candidate will be expected to liaise with other Council departments, local groups and arts bodies; monitor the performance of grant-aided arts organisations and make recommendations regarding financial assistance and identify training needs; prepare reports and compile publicity. Applicants should have appropriate academic qualifications and experience.

APPLICATION FORMS, RETURNABLE BY 18TH SEPTEMBER, 1987, OBTAINABLE FROM THE CITY LIBRARIAN, WILLIAM BROWN STREET, LIVERPOOL, L3 9EW (051 207 2147).

LIVERPOOL
City Council



TECHNICAL

CHIEF QUANTITY
SURVEYOR

£18,312-£19,506

plus a car/travel package

This post, which heads the Quantity Surveying and Finance Group of the Housing Department's Technical Division, is responsible for the provision of all quantity surveying services in connection with maintenance (planned, cyclical and day-to-day) major improvement and repair to the Council's housing stock of approximately 20,000 properties. (The Contract and Direct Labour Expenditure on this work is expected to total £17m in 1987/88).

The post has the assistance of twelve posts of Quantity Surveyors and Technicians together with fifteen clerks of Work who, in addition to their traditional role of monitoring contractors' work, perform an audit function in the checking of routine maintenance works.

Applicants should be corporate members of the RICS, preferably with at least 10 years post-qualification experience. They should be familiar with the financial structure of housing maintenance in both the revenue and capital expenditure fields and have experience in the preparation of estimates for expenditure for revenue and capital work and of the monitoring and control of such expenditure. They should also be familiar with DOE project control procedures in respect of capital schemes.

The Council will cover all reasonable relocation expenses, provide temporary housing and contribute up to £50,000 for a property ownership share.

Informal enquiries to Mr G Jackson on 01-366 9356.

Written details and application forms are available from the Housing Department, Technical Division, Catterhal Lane, Enfield EN1 4BJ. Tel 01-366 9356. Closing date 16.9.87. Ref DHS/810.

London Borough of
Enfield

An Equal
Opportunity
Employer

TOWN & COUNTRY
BUILDING SOCIETYASSISTANT
SOLICITOR

to £15,000 p.a. + Benefits

We are moving our Legal Department to a pleasant seaside environment at our Clacton on Sea Administrative Centre, and are seeking an Assistant to work with the Society's Solicitor. This is an ideal opportunity for an enthusiastic and hardworking qualified Solicitor to gain experience in a wide range of legal work, including litigation, company law, commercial conveyancing and advice to management on a variety of legal issues.

The benefits package includes salary c. £15,000 p.a., low cost mortgage, company car, BUPA, excellent pension scheme, and relocation expenses where necessary.

Town & Country is one of Britain's fastest-growing building societies with assets over £1300m and a record of rapid growth.

Please apply with a full C.V. and details of present salary to: Mrs. J. Stanesby, Personnel Manager, Town & Country Building Society, Jackson Road, Clacton on Sea, Essex CO15 1JF.

CONVEYANCING

Solicitor to deal with mostly residential but some commercial conveyancing in small but busy firm.

Salary c£20,000. Partnership prospects. Please write with c.v. to: T. M. Sutton-Matlocks, Sutton-Matlocks & Co., 1 Rocks Lane, Barnes, London SW13 0DE.

LOCUMS

Solicitors & Legal Executives urgently required in all areas.

Tel: 01 404 4741. Conveyancing, Litigation, full or part-time, long-term bookings. High earnings + accommodation + travel costs neg.

ASA LAW
The Locum Specialists

COMPANY COMMERCIAL
SOLICITOR

required with own practice to join very successful expanding West End firm.

Complete floor available in freehold building in West End of London.

We are a 7 partner firm with substantial foreign clientele.

Equity partnership available on terms to be discussed.

Suit partner in large firm who is thinking of establishing own practice and requires litigation conveyancing and tax support for existing corporate and commercial clients.

Please write in confidence to Box No A88.

EAST SUSSEX

Vacancy in four partner firm for Conveyancing Solicitor. The successful applicant must have experience in all fields of Conveyancing. This is a demanding but responsible and rewarding position.

Please write with CV to S P S Vance Esq Vance Harris 1 Beacon Road, Crowborough East Sussex TN6 1AF

HARRIS & HARRIS
Somerset and Avon

We are a young(ish) flourishing firm, with 7 partners and 5 branches.

Our commitment to technology runs into many nothings.

Our growth path throws up new vacancies for ADVOCACY in two of our Somerset market towns. Each one brings with it the normal mixed bag of sublime and ridiculous but there are great benefits for the right person.

Please write giving full details to our staff partner Jonathan Caverder at 11 Stony Street, Frome, Somerset.

BARRISTERS'
CHAMBERS

Applications are invited for position of Junior Clerk in long-established Bristol chambers.

Details of age and experience in strict confidence to: The Senior Clerk, Albion Chambers, Broad Street, Bristol BS1 1DL.

WEST END
PRACTICE

Requires enthusiastic Solicitor with one/two years' conveyancing/property experience. Good salary and prospects.

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Law Report September 1 1987

Court of Appeal

Fresh evidence allowed in tax appeal

Brady (Inspector of Taxes) v Group Lotus Car Companies plc and Another.

Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Mustill and Lord Justice Balcombe (Judgment July 31).

In a tax appeal brought by way of case stated to the High Court where it became apparent that general commissioners had (1) made an error of law in upholding a taxpayer's case, and (2) had most probably been deliberately misled by dishonest evidence on the taxpayer's part, then the principles of justice required that the case be remitted for rehearing by commissioners and that the Crown should be permitted an adjournment to adduce fresh evidence.

The Court of Appeal so stated in upholding the decision of Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, (*The Times* January 5, 1987; [1987] STC 184) who allowed an appeal by the Crown from a decision of Wymondham general commissioners discharging two alternative assessments to corporation tax each in the sum of £9 million made on the taxpayer's case, and Group Lotus Car Companies plc and Lotus Cars Ltd, for accounting periods ended December 31, 1978 and 1979.

Lotus was refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords. The background to the case concerned the development of a sports car in Northern Ireland by Mr De Lorean who had acquired substantial public money for the purpose.

Arrangements made in 1978 between Mr De Lorean and Lotus, sports car manufacturer of international repute, gave rise to the dispute.

Mr Colin Chapman had been the inspiration behind Lotus and Mr Frederick Bushell, who had given evidence to the commissioners, had been his right-hand man and a co-director. After Mr Chapman's death in 1982 Mr Bushell became managing director and then chief executive of Lotus.

Mr De Lorean had negotiated with Mr Chapman for substantial work to be done by Lotus on research and develop-

ment of the new car. On November 1, 1978, three written contracts were negotiated between the De Lorean companies, Lotus and GPD Services Ltd, a Panamanian company controlled in Switzerland.

Thereafter the service of GPD was obtained by Mr De Lorean for design work and it was a contractual condition that Mr Chapman and Lotus would be engaged to do the work.

One version of one of the contracts provided for an "up-front" payment by the De Lorean companies to GPD of £17.65 million. That provision was found to be missing in other copies of the contract.

Also on November 1 Lotus contracted with GPD to carry out the work involved. That work was duly performed and Lotus received payment for it from the De Lorean companies.

In 1982 the De Lorean scheme collapsed. It was common ground that out of the lump sum payment to GPD of £17.65 million, \$8.5 million went to Mr De Lorean personally. At the time of the hearing before the commissioners the Revenue did not know what had happened to the balance.

Lotus was subsequently assessed to corporation tax on the basis that as it had done the work it must have been entitled to a \$9.15 million balance from the advance payment. It was claimed by the Revenue that that sum was part of the profits of Lotus even if funds had been diverted to avoid United Kingdom tax. Lotus appealed against those assessments.

The commissioners held that there was no evidence of the alleged payments being made to Lotus and that if such payments had been made then fraud was involved and it thus became incumbent on the Revenue to prove such fraud and that had not been done. They discharged the assessments against Lotus.

Subsequently, further evidence became available. The De Lorean receiver obtained details of two numbered bank accounts of GPD in Zurich. They disclosed that during 1978 substantial dollar payments had been made out of those accounts into

Swiss bank accounts in the names of Mr Chapman and Mr Bushell.

As a result of that evidence the Crown brought the appeal seeking an order under Order 91, rule 4 of the Rules of the Supreme Court for the case to be remitted for further evidence to be adduced.

Mr Leolin Price, QC and Mr James Munby for Lotus; Mr John Chadwick, QC and Mr Alan Moses for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that what lay behind the issues of procedure and onus of proof argued before the court was a desire by the Crown to get in fresh evidence not available to it until after the commissioners' hearing.

If, the Crown submitted, there was an error of law on the commissioners' part such that the matter should be remitted for rehearing then it would be appropriate for new evidence to be admitted on the rehearing. The error relied on was the onus of proof on the questions which they had to consider.

Where assessments were made in time, as those had been, the burden lay on a taxpayer from the start to disprove them (see *Haythornthwaite & Sons Ltd v Kelly* ([1927] 11 TC 657)).

Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, correctly held, that the commissioners had misdirected themselves in law over that onus of proof. Moreover, it could not be said that the evidence was such that they would necessarily have reached the same conclusion if they had directed themselves correctly.

As the High Court hearing an appeal by way of case stated had no power to find facts, it followed that the case had to be remitted for further hearing. And further it had been agreed that if there was to be remission it ought to be to the special and not to the general commissioners.

The issue was, however, whether at the hearing of the remitted case there should be power to adduce fresh evidence. The evidence that the Crown sought to adduce had been obtained since the hearing before the commissioners and

could not with reasonable diligence have been obtained before.

Such evidence, the Crown contended (the validity of which was not at issue at this juncture), showed that directors had intercepted and appropriated monies due to Lotus and that the monies concerned ranked as receipts of Lotus and should be taxed accordingly.

The Vice-Chancellor had allowed fresh evidence to be adduced on the principle exemplified in *Meek v Fleming* ([1961] 2 QB 366, 379) where Lord Justice Holroyd, Pearce said "where a party deliberately misleads the court in a material matter, and that deception has probably tipped the scale in his favour... it would be wrong to allow him to retain the judgment thus unfairly procured".

Mr Price submitted that there was no evidence that Mr Bushell ever knew of Swiss bank accounts in his name or that GPD had paid monies into the accounts. He further argued that the error of law by the commissioners was adventitious: had they directed themselves correctly their decision discharging the assessments would have been final and conclusive against the Crown. It would be wrong, he said, to allow the Crown to profit from the fresh evidence just because there happened to have been the error.

But it was to be strongly suspected that Mr Bushell had deceived the commissioners when giving evidence. It would be wrong that the decision be obtained should stand. There was no good reason why the commissioners should be required to approach their task in blinkers, denied the benefit of the new evidence. In the circumstances of the case it was right to allow fresh evidence to be adduced on the rehearing.

LORD JUSTICE MUSTILL, delivering a concurring judgment, added that he would modify the terms on which the case was to be remitted.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE delivered a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Dillon.

Solicitors: Gouldens; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Students excluded from housing benefit

Regina v Kensington and Chelsea London Borough Council, Ex parte Woolrich and Another. Before Mr Justice Kennedy (Judgment July 31).

The amendment to paragraph 10 of Schedule 1A of the Housing Benefit Regulations (SI 1985 No 677) made in paragraph 10 of the Housing Benefit Amendment (No 3) Regulations (SI 1986 No 1009), which provided that for the purposes of calculating entitlement to housing benefit in the case of a full-time student at the University of London or other establishment "within" the London area, the eligible rent during the period of study should be reduced to £17.70 weekly was not essential for section 28(1) of the Social

Security and Housing Benefit Act 1982.

Mr Justice Kennedy so held in the Queen's Bench Division in dismissing an application by Michael Woolrich for judicial review of a decision of the Kensington and Chelsea Borough Council to the effect that he did not qualify for housing benefit.

Mr Mark Rowland for the applicant; Mr Robert Carruth, QC and Mr John Howell for the respondents.

MR JUSTICE KENNEDY said that the theory behind the £17.70 deduction was that a grant-aided student would already have received an allowance for accommodation included in his grant. However, the effect of the 1986 amendment was that the definition of

"grant-aided student" was deleted from regulation 2 of the 1985 Regulations and the deduction now had to be made in the case of every student, whether or not in receipt of an award of any sort.

In the case of students, like the applicant, who were not in receipt of any grant it was assumed that it was reasonable to expect them to make provision for themselves up to the level covered by the grant. That assumption did not apply to any other applicants for housing benefit; students alone were expected to provide for themselves out of unspecified resources.

However, his Lordship came reluctantly to the conclusion that the 1986 amendment was not determined otherwise than

by reference to the needs and resources of students and was therefore not in conflict with the closing words of section 28(1) of the Social Security and Housing Benefit Act 1982.

Under the Regulations such anomalies were bound to occur (although in this case it was hard to escape the conclusion that the anomaly was recognized at the time the amendment was made and would not have been difficult to eradicate) and when testing whether they had been made with regard to the needs and resources of claimants regard had to be taken not of the needs of individuals but of classes of claimants and claimants as a whole.

Solicitors: Sinclair Taylor & Partners, 11 North Kensington; DHSS Solicitor.

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مكتبة الادب العربي

Captain believes British domination of team will end but on winning note in United States

Jacklin's thumbs up for Ryder Cup

By Mitchell Platt, Golf Correspondent

The European team for the Ryder Cup against the United States later this month delights Tony Jacklin, the captain. "I could not be happier with the 12 players who eventually made it," he said. "If I had been selecting all 12 then it would have made no difference. I would have hand-picked the same team."

That is a conjecture, especially as Jacklin had only three selections, but now is not the time for an autopsy on the team, sponsored by Johnnie Walker. For Jacklin it is a time to cajole the players to find the sort of inspiration that flowed in at the Belfry in 1985 when the United States were defeated for the first time since 1957.

Jacklin, who also led Europe when they came within one point of a first victory on American soil, in 1983 said: "I keep hearing that Jack Nicklaus is doing everything to make this the most memorable match ever held in the United States. If that is so, I can assure him that I will be doing my level best to make sure it is memorable for the first European win over there."

"We can win, make no mistake about that, and the

pressure this time on the Americans will be enormous. They even tried to change the format, to suit television, to stretch the match to an extra day, but I resisted that. We will, like last time, play two series each of foursomes and fourballs and one series of singles. The only difference is that the foursomes will be each morning. We are certainly ready for the challenge."

This Ryder Cup, with four Scots, three Spaniards, two Englishmen, one West German, one Irishman and one Welshman, in the team, is as

Davies trails

Laura Davies, the United States Open champion, finished seventh in the Nestlé's women's world championship at Stouffville, Georgia, in Sunday. The British player had a final round of 70, the second best of the day, to finish on 289, one over par, but seven strokes behind a 19-year-old American, Li Na, in the elite 22-strong field.

cosmopolitan as any although it might mark the end of Britain outperforming the Europeans. Since the door was first opened to the Europeans in 1979, following a talk

between Lord Derby and the Americans, who were keen to reignite a competitive flavour, the progress in Europe has been phenomenal.

Severino Ballesteros and Bernhard Langer have had much to do with that. Jacklin acknowledges that by 1989 it is quite likely that Sweden and West Germany will supply several players to the team and that Spain will continue to play a significant part in selecting Ken Brown, Sandy Lyle and José María Olazábal, the Spaniard, Jacklin was well aware that, following his prediction in 1985 that the next team would include a Swedish player, he ignored the strong claims of three players from that country.

Mats Lanner, Ove Selberg and Magnus Persson finished tenth, thirteenth and sixteenth in the Ryder Cup points list so the Swedes are somewhat disappointed that none made it. Jacklin explained: "It is an amazing job that they have done in Sweden. Their dedication is beginning to pay off. The form of Mats Lanner has fluctuated since he won the Epson match-play title in May and I just felt that he was not quite ready."



Faith-healer: Tony Jacklin has backed Sandy Lyle to rediscover his raw talent in Ryder Cup

JACKLIN'S ASSESSMENT OF HIS MUIRFIELD VILLAGE MEN

Ian Woosnam

Age 29.
Victories: 11, including Madrid, Jersey and Bell's Scottish Opens this season.
European Tour winnings: £810,016.
Ryder Cup record (1983 and 1985): Played 6, won 2, lost 3, halved 1.
Jacklin's verdict: On his day, when hot on the greens, he is virtually unbeatable. He is a very good player, but he is not a great one. He is a very good player, but he is not a great one. He is a very good player, but he is not a great one.

Nick Faldo

Age 30.
Victories: 14, including Open Championship and Spanish Open this season, three PGA Championships and San Pines Heritage Classic (US) in 1984.
European Tour winnings: £725,121.
Ryder Cup record (1977, 1978, 1981, 1983 and 1985): Played 17, won 11, lost 6.
Jacklin's verdict: Great to have Nick back at the top of his form after his Open Championship win. He knew in 1985 that he wasn't really hitting, and he made my life easier by winning so, but at his best there are few better match-play golfers.

Eamonn Darcy

Age 35.
Victories: 11, including Belgian Open this season.
European Tour winnings: £382,221.
Ryder Cup record (1975, 1977 and 1981): Played 5, won 0, lost 2, halved 3.
Jacklin's verdict: It really is great to see Eamonn back in the team—circumstances were such in 1985 that I didn't feel that I could select Christy O'Connor. Eamonn, however, has come back to winning form this year, and as Ireland's No. 1, he is for my money one of the finest pickers of the ball in the world.

Ken Brown

Age 30.
Victories: 5, including Carrolls Irish Open in 1978.
European Tour winnings: £230,994.
Ryder Cup record (1977, 1978, 1981 and 1985): Played 11, won 4, lost 7.
Jacklin's verdict: He has again shown his betting qualities on the US Tour this year with several very good efforts. He will never let his handicap get the best of him, and he has also matured into a fine team man.

Gordon Brand jr

Age 29.
Victories: 6, including Dutch and Scandinavian Opens this season.
European Tour winnings: £288,014.
Ryder Cup record (1985): Played 2 won 1, lost 1.
Jacklin's verdict: I said at the start of this year that I wouldn't be surprised if he made the team and I'm extremely pleased that he has. He's had an outstanding season and he will be a great asset to us at Muirfield Village.

Sam Torrance

Age 34.
Victories: 15, including Australian PGA Championship (1980) and Italian Open this season.
European Tour winnings: £710,529.
Ryder Cup record (1981, 1983 and 1985): Played 13, won 3, lost 7, halved 3.
Jacklin's verdict: He is a natural competitor, made for the Ryder Cup, and he proved that in 1985 by coming back from behind against Andy North to win with that fantastic last green putt. I think he has passed the test. He has shown his ability to perform under pressure, and he has also matured into a fine team man.

Jose Rivero

Age 32.
Victories: 2, including French Open this season.
European Tour winnings: £288,420.
Ryder Cup record (1985): Played 2 won 1, lost 1.
Jacklin's verdict: A good, solid player and a sound putter even under pressure. He is a very good foursomes player. He knows his own capabilities and he is always prepared to fit in for the good of the team.

Seve Ballesteros

Age 30.
Victories: 51, including Open Championship (1979 and 1984) and US Masters (1980 and 1983) and the Suez Open in Cannes this season.
European Tour winnings: £1,151,578.
Ryder Cup record (1978, 1983 and 1985): Played 15, won 6, lost 6, halved 3.
Jacklin's verdict: He is the No. 1 golfer in the world, so far as I am concerned, and his contribution to the team is twofold. Seve's record on the course speaks for itself and off the course he is an extremely intelligent person. He plays everything and I know he's hitting the ball superbly right now.

Howard Clark

Age 33.
Victories: 10, including Moroccan and PLM Opens this season and PGA Championship in 1984.
European Tour winnings: £288,420.
Ryder Cup record (1977, 1981 and 1985): Played 7, won 3, lost 3, halved 1.
Jacklin's verdict: He has a fantastic short game, which on a course like Muirfield Village will be of paramount importance. This guy never gives up so I know whatever position he is in I can depend on him giving 100 per cent.

Sandy Lyle

Age 29.
Victories: 17, including Open Championship (1985) and the Tournoi de France (1985) and the Championship (US) this season.
European Tour winnings: £782,688.
Ryder Cup record (1978, 1981, 1983 and 1985): Played 14, won 4, lost 8, halved 2.
Jacklin's verdict: What a marvellous achievement it was of his to win the TPC in Florida this year. He has such raw talent that nothing he ever does will surprise me. He plays everything and I'm confident he's going to have a great Ryder Cup.

Jose-Maria Olazabal

Age 21.
Victories: 2, including European Masters last season.
European Tour winnings: £217,424.
Ryder Cup Debut.
Jacklin's verdict: His talent is enormous. He has an old head on young shoulders and I think he will be the next European—and that includes the British players—to win a major championship. I think he is that good. He has every shot. He also has a marvellous, friendly way about him so he'll be great in the team.

Bernhard Langer

Age 30.
Victories: 23, including US Masters (1985) and Whyte and Mackay PGA Championship and Carrolls Irish Open this season.
European Tour winnings: £786,498.
Ryder Cup record (1981, 1983 and 1985): Played 16, won 8, lost 5, halved 3.
Jacklin's verdict: Bernhard, first and foremost, is the complete player. He can produce all the shots. He competes as well as anyone in the world and his experience of playing in the Ryder Cup will obviously stand up in good stead.

CRICKET

West Indies fear well of talent may be drying up



Simon Barnes

Bridgetown
It's funny. We used to think of Barbadian cricketers as men all as nice as pie. Charming and thrilling. Now we think of them as nasty, sinister, ferocious in their attack on batsmen and the rules and traditions of the game. Malcolm Marshall, Joel Garner—names to make you shudder, names with which to frighten baby batsmen.

Oh, we sigh, for Gary Sobers, for Sir Garfield Sobers. West Indian cricket seemed so much more fun when he was around. In Sir Gary's day there weren't so many bouncers, or so many demon bowlers. It was mostly in batting—a quick-witted, inventive, dashing, packed with glorious attacking instincts—that the West Indies had their power base, and who has ever wielded a bat as beautifully as he? Now the power base is in bowling, in fast and brutal bowling and somehow this is resented.

"If a man hits six balls in an over then he's a good old chap," Sobers said. "If he bowls six bouncers, he's a terrible man. They keep showing my six balls in an over on television—how does Malcolm Nash, the bowler, feel about that?" Sobers is a good old chap for destroying bowlers: Marshall is a terrible man for destroying batsmen.

Not the fun it was in Sobers' time

The point is that cricket is not a kind, gentle game. It is a hard and dangerous game. It doesn't hold the idea of limiting bowlers to one bounce an over, Sobers said. "A bowler must be able to bowl what he wants. If you can't take six bouncers an over, then you are not good enough. You shouldn't be out there. You say one batsman is a world-beater. How can he be great if there is a limit? When once he's had one bounce he knows he can play forward? People love to look for excuses. They said Charlie Griffiths was a chucker, they say we bowl too many bouncers—a whole heap of nonsense!"

Sobers has not suddenly started to play his shots half-cock, it will be noted. But the way to stop any tactic in any

sport is not to change the rules but to counterattack (hooking), to spike the opposing bats (helmet and ducking), or to return the same weapon with a joyous cry of "they don't like it up 'em, sir!"

Perhaps this will happen. For amazingly, the supply of Bajan fast bowlers no longer seems endless. Wise heads in Bajan cricket are looking around and wondering if there really is anyone around with pace and control. And with Garner retiring and Marshall as brilliant as ever but a lot less young, there are further signs around that the era of total West Indian domination is, perhaps, really at the beginning of the end.

No successor is in sight for Marshall

"Here it's no surprise that the West Indies are a little weaker," Sobers said. "It's got to happen. People get surprised at it, they think it's impossible—but of course it's happening. It's inevitable. It happens to everybody in the world. In every sport, in every profession, people get to the top and then decline."

Sir Garfield speaks true. It is only memories that do not decline, and memories of gorgeous players like Sobers—though actually there has never been a cricketer like Sobers—are an unfading pleasure.

"What is the most important thing in sport?" I asked him. "As far as I am concerned the most important thing for me is to play for my country, to behave yourself when you do so, to be an ambassador. Conduct is more important than sport. The complete sportsman does not behave badly."

The Mighty Sparrow, a calypso singer, once called Sobers "The greatest cricketer on earth or Mars." Who's arguing? What would Barbados and the West Indies give for another such nonpareil?

Degree course vacancies: humanities, social sciences, physical sciences

The Times Degree Course Vacancies Service continues today with university vacancies in humanities, social sciences and sciences.

The information is compiled by The Times Network Systems from data published by the Universities Central Council on Admissions (UCCA) and the Polytechnics Central Admissions System (PCAS).

The figures in brackets following each course title indicate the course code used by UCCA and PCAS and will help students now in the clearing system to determine whether the course listed is similar to their original choice.

To find out more about TINS services write to PO Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1 9EZ.

A different group of courses with vacancies is featured each day in The Times throughout the clearing period. If the course you are looking for is not listed here, call UCCA's information line on 0272 217244 or PCAS on 0272 217221.

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Progressive Fahad set to initiate Epsom double for Aga Khan

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

The Aga Khan's famous green and red racing silks, which were carried to victory at Epsom by Sherar and Sharatani in the Derbies of 1981 and 1986, look like being back in the winner's enclosure there today, not once but twice thanks to the efforts of Fahad (3.05) and Marasid (4.10).

I find it possible to make out an excellent case for backing Fahad to win the Epsom and Ewell Golden Jubilee Handicap over 10 furlongs, and he is my nap.

When he was successful over the same distance at Haydock Park in July he had Oloro Malle 7½ lengths behind in third place.

Yet today, the same horse, who was beaten only a short head and a head in his next race at Sandown, is just a pound better off.

In the meantime the form of that Haydock race has also been given quite a boost by the runner-up, Operatic Score, who ran away with his next race at Salisbury.

Apart from Oloro Malle, who has two wins at Epsom to his credit, tough opposition can be expected this afternoon from Samhan and Factum.

However, the handicapper may have got the measure of these rivals whereas it is quite

and thereby complete a double for his owner.

His jockey, Walter Swinburn, also has a chance of winning the St John Ambulance Centenary Nursery on Belvedere Court, who has won his last two races at Folkestone.

But I just prefer Good Medicine, who did well to finish second in a similar race at Salisbury last month for which such useful two-year-olds as Cash In Store and Sonilla were so fancied.

Otherwise, it should pay to follow Cash Assumen riding Lazy Lagoon (2.0) and Island Charm (4.45), especially the former who ran so well in her only race at Newbury to finish third behind Ghanimah.

Crystal Moss, who looked an ideal ride for a young jockey when winning at Haydock and Chesham, can continue the good work in the Steve Donoghue Apprentices' Handicap.

Tenniss, who was disqualified after making a successful debut at Yarmouth, should make amends in the second division of the River Maiden Stakes.

Finally, Tendancy is suggested as the best bet at Ripon to capture the Tattersalls Wensley Auction Stakes after showing so much promise at Yarmouth.

Cauthen excels on Dowager Empress

Steve Cauthen, a rare visitor to Chesham, gave the locals a treat yesterday with the demonstration of his skill on Dowager Empress, who ran a gamble from 7-2 to 5-2 favourite in the first division of the Castle Maiden Stakes.

Dowager Empress, racing down the middle of the course, was always up with the leaders and showed off her talent. Light the Night from halfway

before holding off the challenge of 50-1 newcomer Balfador.

This was a happy occasion for the old firm of Cauthen, Barry Hills and Robert Sangster and Dowager Empress gave the trainer his 64th success, 43 of them having been for Sangster.

George Foster, representing Hills, said: "The filly is very well thought of and she will, despite the course, show what she can do."

CHEPSTOW

Selections

By Mandarin

2.15 Austina, 2.45 Concor, 3.15 John Dore, 3.45 Lucky Star, 4.15 Cee-En-Cee, 4.45 Stride Home, 5.15 Taurus.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 Peerglow, 2.45 Miss Dandy, 3.15 John Dore, 3.45 No Jazz, 4.15 Debach Revue, 4.45 Olivers' Maid.

Going: good to firm

Draw: 5-11, high numbers best

2.15 FOREST SELLING STAKES (275: 1m 2f) (12 runners)

1-60 LUSKATY (F) M McCall 4-9-5 R Wensley 7
2-10 MATOATY 4-9-5 R Wensley 7
3-10 LUSKATY 4-9-5 R Wensley 7
4-10 LUSKATY 4-9-5 R Wensley 7
5-10 LUSKATY 4-9-5 R Wensley 7
6-10 LUSKATY 4-9-5 R Wensley 7
7-10 LUSKATY 4-9-5 R Wensley 7
8-10 LUSKATY 4-9-5 R Wensley 7
9-10 LUSKATY 4-9-5 R Wensley 7
10-10 LUSKATY 4-9-5 R Wensley 7
11-10 LUSKATY 4-9-5 R Wensley 7
12-10 LUSKATY 4-9-5 R Wensley 7

2.45 RIVER MAIDEN STAKES (Div 1: 3-Y-O: £905: 1m) (8 runners)

1-60 PALACE SONG 301 C Chert 9-0 P Blandford 7
2-60 PALACE SONG 301 C Chert 9-0 P Blandford 7
3-60 PALACE SONG 301 C Chert 9-0 P Blandford 7
4-60 PALACE SONG 301 C Chert 9-0 P Blandford 7
5-60 PALACE SONG 301 C Chert 9-0 P Blandford 7
6-60 PALACE SONG 301 C Chert 9-0 P Blandford 7
7-60 PALACE SONG 301 C Chert 9-0 P Blandford 7
8-60 PALACE SONG 301 C Chert 9-0 P Blandford 7
9-60 PALACE SONG 301 C Chert 9-0 P Blandford 7
10-60 PALACE SONG 301 C Chert 9-0 P Blandford 7
11-60 PALACE SONG 301 C Chert 9-0 P Blandford 7
12-60 PALACE SONG 301 C Chert 9-0 P Blandford 7

3.15 LYSAGHT HANDICAP (Handicappers' amateurs: 22,702: 2m) (8 runners)

2-474 WHITE CLOVER 14 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
1-101 JOHN DORE 34 (F) M Prescott 4-10-3 T Eastley 7
2-101 JOHN DORE 34 (F) M Prescott 4-10-3 T Eastley 7
3-101 JOHN DORE 34 (F) M Prescott 4-10-3 T Eastley 7
4-101 JOHN DORE 34 (F) M Prescott 4-10-3 T Eastley 7
5-101 JOHN DORE 34 (F) M Prescott 4-10-3 T Eastley 7
6-101 JOHN DORE 34 (F) M Prescott 4-10-3 T Eastley 7
7-101 JOHN DORE 34 (F) M Prescott 4-10-3 T Eastley 7
8-101 JOHN DORE 34 (F) M Prescott 4-10-3 T Eastley 7
9-101 JOHN DORE 34 (F) M Prescott 4-10-3 T Eastley 7
10-101 JOHN DORE 34 (F) M Prescott 4-10-3 T Eastley 7
11-101 JOHN DORE 34 (F) M Prescott 4-10-3 T Eastley 7
12-101 JOHN DORE 34 (F) M Prescott 4-10-3 T Eastley 7

3.45 HOOVER DISTRIBUTOR HANDICAP (21,572: 7f) (20 runners)

1-60 EAGLE DESTINY 45 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
2-60 EAGLE DESTINY 45 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
3-60 EAGLE DESTINY 45 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
4-60 EAGLE DESTINY 45 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
5-60 EAGLE DESTINY 45 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
6-60 EAGLE DESTINY 45 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
7-60 EAGLE DESTINY 45 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
8-60 EAGLE DESTINY 45 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
9-60 EAGLE DESTINY 45 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
10-60 EAGLE DESTINY 45 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
11-60 EAGLE DESTINY 45 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
12-60 EAGLE DESTINY 45 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0

4.20 SWALLOW BAY 5 (D) H Jenson 5-8-9

2.15 ILSTING JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-O: £818: 2m 150yds) (8 runners)

1-60 ANOTHER COUNTRY (G) C James 10-7 B Brown
2-60 ANOTHER COUNTRY (G) C James 10-7 B Brown
3-60 ANOTHER COUNTRY (G) C James 10-7 B Brown
4-60 ANOTHER COUNTRY (G) C James 10-7 B Brown
5-60 ANOTHER COUNTRY (G) C James 10-7 B Brown
6-60 ANOTHER COUNTRY (G) C James 10-7 B Brown
7-60 ANOTHER COUNTRY (G) C James 10-7 B Brown
8-60 ANOTHER COUNTRY (G) C James 10-7 B Brown
9-60 ANOTHER COUNTRY (G) C James 10-7 B Brown
10-60 ANOTHER COUNTRY (G) C James 10-7 B Brown
11-60 ANOTHER COUNTRY (G) C James 10-7 B Brown
12-60 ANOTHER COUNTRY (G) C James 10-7 B Brown

2.45 YARNER SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (22,615: 2m 150yds) (7 runners)

1-60 CAUDALE 474 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
2-60 CAUDALE 474 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
3-60 CAUDALE 474 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
4-60 CAUDALE 474 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
5-60 CAUDALE 474 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
6-60 CAUDALE 474 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0
7-60 CAUDALE 474 (F) G Harwood 4-12-0

3.15 RYAL HOTEL DAWLISH HANDICAP CHASE (22,615: 2m 5f) (4 runners)

1-60 ALLIED NEWCASTLE 24 (COB.F.S) D Bowers
2-60 ALLIED NEWCASTLE 24 (COB.F.S) D Bowers
3-60 ALLIED NEWCASTLE 24 (COB.F.S) D Bowers
4-60 ALLIED NEWCASTLE 24 (COB.F.S) D Bowers

3.50 TAW AMATEUR RIDERS' HANDICAP HURDLE (22,633: 3m 21f) (12 runners)

1-60 WOODBURN 154 (F) S J Blythe 9-10-0 M Bailey 4
2-60 WOODBURN 154 (F) S J Blythe 9-10-0 M Bailey 4
3-60 WOODBURN 154 (F) S J Blythe 9-10-0 M Bailey 4
4-60 WOODBURN 154 (F) S J Blythe 9-10-0 M Bailey 4
5-60 WOODBURN 154 (F) S J Blythe 9-10-0 M Bailey 4
6-60 WOODBURN 154 (F) S J Blythe 9-10-0 M Bailey 4
7-60 WOODBURN 154 (F) S J Blythe 9-10-0 M Bailey 4
8-60 WOODBURN 154 (F) S J Blythe 9-10-0 M Bailey 4
9-60 WOODBURN 154 (F) S J Blythe 9-10-0 M Bailey 4
10-60 WOODBURN 154 (F) S J Blythe 9-10-0 M Bailey 4
11-60 WOODBURN 154 (F) S J Blythe 9-10-0 M Bailey 4
12-60 WOODBURN 154 (F) S J Blythe 9-10-0 M Bailey 4

Italian hotel group takes over Arc sponsorship

Paris (Reuters) - The Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, one of the world's leading races, will have a new sponsor from next year.

The Societe d'Encouragement, the body responsible for racing in France, reported yesterday that the Italian hotel group CIGA (Compagnia Italiana dei Grandi Alberghi) had submitted 25 million francs (£2.5 million) to a 50-year agreement from 1988 to 1993.

CIGA is taking over from the British hotel group Trusthouse Forte which had failed to find partners to share the cost of

Thaidad takes off for Ireland

Lambourn trainer Peter Walwyn will be looking up the flight timetables to Ireland following the runaway victory of his Canadian-bred filly Thaidad at Epsom yesterday.

She now takes a major step up in class for a crack at the Moyglare Stud Stakes over six furlongs at the Curragh on September 13.

After the 15-8 on favourite had cruised home by three lengths in the Sherwood Fillies Stakes, Walwyn said: "I saw the filly while on a visit to Woodbine in Canada and fell in love with her immediately. She was a late foal and is improving all the time."

Kingsfold Flame has been a grand servant to Epsom trainer

up with the Upper Lambourn trainer Kim Brasse.

The trainer's wife, Ali, said: "All in all, it's a day of firsts - our first Epsom winner, and a first horse I have saddled for my husband this year, because Kim went to Chesham. I was terrified I might not put the saddle on properly, but thankfully all was well."

Thomson had his third winner of the afternoon on the 6-1 chance Chozroz, who just got the better of Global Lady in the Bridget Fillies Handicap.

Blinkered first time

Epsom: 2.0 One Heart, 2.30 VV Tucker, 2.45 VV Tucker, 3.15 VV Tucker, 3.45 VV Tucker, 4.15 VV Tucker, 4.45 VV Tucker, 5.15 VV Tucker, 5.45 VV Tucker, 6.15 VV Tucker, 6.45 VV Tucker, 7.15 VV Tucker, 7.45 VV Tucker, 8.15 VV Tucker, 8.45 VV Tucker, 9.15 VV Tucker, 9.45 VV Tucker, 10.15 VV Tucker, 10.45 VV Tucker, 11.15 VV Tucker, 11.45 VV Tucker, 12.15 VV Tucker, 12.45 VV Tucker, 1.15 VV Tucker, 1.45 VV Tucker, 2.15 VV Tucker, 2.45 VV Tucker, 3.15 VV Tucker, 3.45 VV Tucker, 4.15 VV Tucker, 4.45 VV Tucker, 5.15 VV Tucker, 5.45 VV Tucker, 6.15 VV Tucker, 6.45 VV Tucker, 7.15 VV Tucker, 7.45 VV Tucker, 8.15 VV Tucker, 8.45 VV Tucker, 9.15 VV Tucker, 9.45 VV Tucker, 10.15 VV Tucker, 10.45 VV Tucker, 11.15 VV Tucker, 11.45 VV Tucker, 12.15 VV Tucker, 12.45 VV Tucker, 1.15 VV Tucker, 1.45 VV Tucker, 2.15 VV Tucker, 2.45 VV Tucker, 3.15 VV Tucker, 3.45 VV Tucker, 4.15 VV Tucker, 4.45 VV Tucker, 5.15 VV Tucker, 5.45 VV Tucker, 6.15 VV Tucker, 6.45 VV Tucker, 7.15 VV Tucker, 7.45 VV Tucker, 8.15 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Fame of America is on the fall

A million-dollar city slicker



David Miller

Rome
There is nothing quite like that old American sporting superiority complex combined with a rare insularity. If they are not winning, then the event is not worth bothering about. When Carl Lewis was beaten into second place in Sunday's record-breaking 100 metres, a sea-level accomplishment by Ben Johnson, the American reaction was one of disbelief. "So what? Lewis is on the way down," said one American.

Never mind that Lewis had just equalled the old world record. For so long he has been able to ignore the fact of a mediocre starting technique because he won his races over the last 40 metres. The expression on his face, his eyes repeatedly flicking left towards the figure of Johnson, yard ahead as the realization of defeat took root, was symptomatic of what could be the American experience of these championships.

An American lady, introduced to a European gold medal winner from the Black and White Games, which America boycotted, showed surprise. "Really?" she explained. "I thought they cancelled that!" American sporting enthusiasm is totally conditional upon America's achievement, which is why these championships are critically important to the future of sport in the United States.

Dubious estimates of gold medals

Track and field, already way behind half a dozen other sports in United States television coverage, could be even further declining. Apart from the Los Angeles Olympics, where a fortnight a chauvinist public was eager to cheer anything that moved, the last time a track event was given prime-time television coverage was the US trials of 1984; and that was a disastrous six million homes.

Track and Field News, the specialist American magazine which traditionally combines a realistic assessment of world form with a large pinch of national prejudice, has forecast 12 gold medals this week — nine men and three women — while Dwight Stones, the former world record high jumper, now commenting for NBC, puts his estimate at 11; the difference being the addition by TNN of Leatherhead, ranked third on the year in the women's 400.

Mel Rosen, the chief coach of the men's team and a sports optimist, says he will be happy with six medals, which would be the same as in the first world championships four years ago. Compare that with the 12 medals and seven women's gold medals won at the 1968 Olympic Games.

The estimate of TNN and Stones has to be questioned. Eugene Mitchell, who beat Reynolds in the 400m hurdles, although other than Moses, only Aki-Bon has run a 400 hurdles in under 48 seconds in a major championship. Schmidt's strength may tell after the eliminating rounds; the relays are always vulnerable and Cooley could lose the triple jump.

Since those glorious days of Beamon, Hines and Evans in 1968, a number of factors have overtaken American athletics. For a start, the rest of the world, and not just the Soviet Union and East Germany, have improved on all records with improved diet and facilities. On the first two days of these championships, the eight gold medals were won by different countries, none from the US; Switzerland, Portugal, Kenya, the Soviet Union, Finland, Canada, East Germany and Italy.

Athletics' lowly reputation in US

The failure of the Mobil Grand Prix to gain attention in the US, together with poor domestic coverage, has emphasized the sport's lowly reputation.

The real alarm, however, is that today's star performers, those national heroes who inspire a youthful following and the next generation of winners — Lewis, Calvin Smith, Moses, Decker and Ashford, who are already fading — have been at the top for six years or more and are not being replaced as image-makers.

Front-ranked middle and long-distance runners are non-existent. America has not won the Olympic men's 1,500 since 1908 and has not had a major international championship pole-vault or shot-put winner since 1968. Steve Prefontaine, a brilliant 5,000 competitor, died; Scott never fulfilled his 1,500 potential. Salazar has gone from the marathon, and Gray, the 800 hope here, tipped by TNN for the silver medal, failed to survive Sunday's second round.

Ollan Cassell, the executive director of The Athletics Congress (TAC), the organizing body which superseded the former Amateur Athletics Union (AAU), may be spending half a million dollars on the preparation of next year's Olympic team but the evidence of Rome, I suspect, will show that money alone cannot stem the falling tide of US athletics.

From Pat Butcher Athletics Correspondent Rome

Even a suit and tie could not disguise the impressive frame of Ben Johnson yesterday. But judging by the prognoses of the world's financial terms, looking like something in the City rather than the fastest thing on two legs was appropriate. He looks like a million dollars, so that was the sum everyone agreed would not be far off the mark.

His biographer reckoned he was going to earn around \$300,000 this year, even before Sunday's world championship 100 metres final. But when Johnson demolished both the world record and

Fastest men

Best 100 metres performances

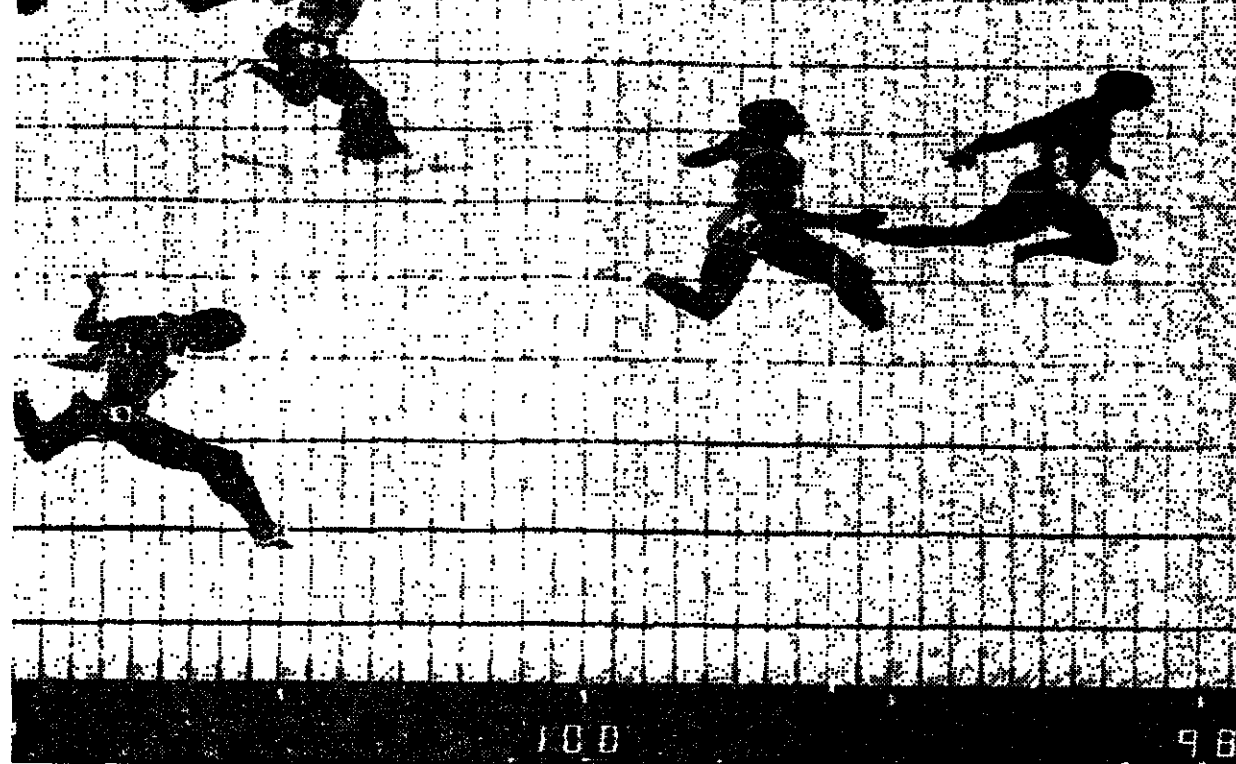
9.93	B Johnson (Can, Rom, 30.8.87)
9.93	C Lewis (US, Rom, 30.8.87)
9.93	S Smith (US, Colorado Springs, 19.8.87)
7.83	
9.95	J Hines (US, Mexico City, 14.10.86)
9.95	Johnson (Moscow, 9.7.86)
9.95	M Lundy (US, Athens, Georgia, 5.5.84)
9.97	Lewis (Modesto, 14.5.83)
9.97	Smith (Zurich, 25.8.83)
9.97	S Leonard (Cuba, Guatemala City, 11.8.87)
9.98	Lewis (Modesto, 11.5.87)
9.98	Johnson (Cuba, 5.1.87)

* denotes race run at altitude.

Lewis's pretensions to defending the title he won in Helsinki estimates doubled accordingly.

The money would come from product endorsements, of which Johnson already has half a dozen, and races. And this for a man, whose stammer, a legacy of mimicking his elder brother as a youth, contributed to his shoe company considering dropping him from their books in 1984, even though he won the bronze medal at the Olympic Games.

His race fees are bound to rise as high as anyone's now. Middle-distance runners have traditionally been the big earners, but until they decide to race each other, even Said Aouita and Steve Cram would raise an eyebrow at around \$30,000 per race, especially



Speeding evidence: The photo-finish picture of Sunday's men's 100 metres final shows Ben Johnson (right) winning in a world record 9.93sec. The grid, calibrated in hundredths of a second and read from the right, shows Johnson as he breaks the tape. Carl Lewis on 9.93, Ray Stewart, of Jamaica, taking bronze with 10.08 and Linford Christie, fourth, on 10.14

one lasting less than 10 seconds. But since he was already contracted to race in London on September 13, Johnson may come cheaper for the time being.

As far as the remainder of these championships is concerned, Johnson was taking yesterday off, before resuming baton practice with the Canadian team for the 100 metres relay. He runs the first leg, with the notion of putting as much pressure as quickly on the United States team as he put on Lewis right from the start on Sunday.

But in athletics terms, the most intriguing prospect is Johnson taking up the 200 metres seriously, with a view to running the sprint double in the Olympics in Seoul next year. His best is 20.35sec two years ago, and his most recent

race was a 20.6sec victory in poor conditions in the Canadian championships a month ago.

The world record is Pietro Mennea's 19.72sec, set at altitude. And although Johnson and his coach, Charlie Francis, say they have not considered the logistics of the move yet, or even if they will really do it, the way they have worked in the last 10 years to turn Johnson from a skinny youth into a powerhouse capable of a 9.93sec 100 metres, and at sea-level, too, means that Johnson's opinion yesterday that he could do 19.8sec has got to be taken seriously, not least by Lewis, whose Olympic 200 metres title seemed unassailable.

Neither Johnson nor Lewis is running the 200 metres here and Linford Christie may also

be missing. The heats begin this morning, and he would have gone into them with as much chance of a medal as in the 100 metres, where Ray Stewart beat him to the bronze by 0.06sec. But a foot injury makes him doubtful. After his relay traumas this week, Christie can be partially excused his refusal to speak to the Press after the race. He later said: "It was a privilege to be in the race."

Lewis initially questioned the validity of Johnson's start. And, although it seemed perfectly legal to most onlookers, Lewis's doubt was backed up yesterday morning by an official reporting that the reaction-time mechanism had broken. But then the International Amateur Athletics Federation released a time for Johnson of 0.129 sec delay

from the gun to leaving the blocks.

That is 0.02 slower than his fastest ever, in the Olympic final. However, at peak speed during the race, Johnson was moving at 26.6 m.p.h. Lewis said he intended to make amends for his defeat by going for Bob Beamon's world record of 8.90 metres in the long jump later this week.

Mick Hill's muscle pull in the third round of the javelin was anything but slight and it explains his inability to challenge for a medal when he had been one of the favourites. He finished seventh, and said yesterday: "It was agony. I'd hit the first two hard, and they were quite good, but I totally missed the third, and put my shoulder out. I'm very disappointed, but I'll get over it."

FULL DETAILS FROM ROME

Sunday Men 800 metres

SECOND ROUND (First three in each heat and overall four fastest losers qualify for final. Qualifiers for semi-finals: 1. M. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 2. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 3. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 4. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 5. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 6. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 7. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 8. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 9. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 10. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 11. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 12. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 13. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 14. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 15. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 16. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 17. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 18. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 19. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 20. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 21. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 22. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 23. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 24. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 25. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 26. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 27. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 28. J. Marmola (Rom, 1:58.00), 29. J. 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